BRITISH MUSEUM

JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

LOOK OUT FOR MRS. BULL ON OCTOBER 25TH

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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All editorial enquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.30.

ADMISSION FREE.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

We have a favour to ask our readers—not for ourselves, but for a lady. Her name is *Mrs. Bull.* She wants the small sum of One Penny from each of you, next Tuesday. It is for a good purpose, and you will not regret it.

There will be lively times in the House of Commons in November. Pity it doesn't meet on the Fifth. "Treason and Plot" are the order of the day.

In the event of Sir J. A. Simon being defeated at Walthamstow, he will remain outside the House till the General Election—when an effort will be made to find him a safe seat.

According to Mr. Haldane, the General Election will come like a thief in the night. Other people are saying that it will come like a clean sweep in the morning.

We notice that Don Alfonso has broken the speed record as a motorist. He may soon find it very useful to be able to travel over the frontier at a pace well over the legal limit.

Now that a question has arisen whether Portugal is to be allowed to retain her colonies, we hope that some stipulation will be made as to the cessation of slavery at S. Thomé and Principe.

We know now that the Portuguese Revolution must have been a put-up job. Dom Manoel makes a solemn declaration that his hurried departure is not to be construed into an abdication. In his own eyes, therefore, he is still King of Portugal. If he is King of Portugal, the royal yacht belongs to him. But he has just returned it, with many thanks, to President Braga. Evidently it was part of the bargain that if he was allowed to depart in peace he should return the yacht as soon as he had done with it. Such are the courtesies of modern insurrections.

It is now announced that the Dom will not reside in Spain. The secret history of this is that he received a very broad hint from Don Alfonso that he would not be allowed to do so. It is one thing to run about arm-in-arm and exchange hats with a mad monarch, but quite another pair of shoes to crave his hospitality after a revolution.

The most obviously faked photograph we have seen for a long time was one of three Portuguese sailors hunting for a Jesuit under a bed. They are clearly posing for their picture, and you can almost see them leaning against the photographer's neck-rest. But the idea was a good one, and the picture ought to enjoy great popularity amongst Protestant Societies and Orange Lodges and all the old women who spend their lives looking for Jesuits under beds. What a joy it will be for them to find one at last, if only in a faked photograph!

At last! We read in our *Baptist Times* that the speakers at the annual public meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance were to include "the Right Reverend Sir Thomas Whittaker, M.P." This is the first intimation we have received that our old friend has been raised to the episcopal bench, and we await with great curiosity news as to the locality of his watery see.

A distinguished German says that England can show whether she really desires to be on good terms with Germany. All we have to do is to agree to a partition of Portuguese colonies. Thus innocently do sedentary persons set the cat among the pigeons. We ought to have Delagoa Bay, but we cannot pick it up like a threepenny-bit on the pavement. When we have a new Foreign Secretary he can begin to negotiate with other countries about it.

We hear that the "John Bull Tea Company" is employing canvassers who claim connection with this paper. As the company's system of "Free Cash Gifts" appears to us very like a swindle, we feel bound to utter a word of warning. Unfortunately, we are unable to monopolise the name of John Bull, though we are probably the only remaining exponents of his policy.

Everybody soon will know MRS. BULL is "Comme il faut."

Our curiosity has been aroused by the advertisements of the League of Honour "founded in September, 1910, to educate the British public, especially the electorate, on questions affecting the honour of the country." It is announced that "leading Bishops, M.P.'s, and public men approve." Everybody of course is interested in the honour of the country, but we have not yet quite made out why a league is necessary to protect it. Meanwhile we venture to enquire, with all due diffidence, who are the promoters and what they propose to do with the subscriptions?

Occasionally people ask us to oblige them by "leaving the parsons alone." They would like us to leave the Rector of Broseley alone, no doubt. Recently the body of a man named Edward Thomas was found in the Severn. At the inquest the coroner, a solicitor, pointed out to the jury that there was no evidence of suicide as far as he could see, and the jury returned a verdict of "found drowned." That verdict expressed the opinion of everybody in Broseley except the Rev. A. C. Howell, the rector. At the funeral he not only declined to allow the body to be taken into the church, but he deliberately refrained from reading the commitment portion of the Burial Office, much to the distress of the relatives. The reason he gave for his action was that the man committed suicide. It is the Howells of the Church—and there is a big, contemptible crowd of them—who bring religion into disrepute, for they are always provoking the question how they can square their professions with their conduct. The Rector of Broseley is a very bad Christian.

Can anyone tell us about the Society of the Sons of Suva? A young friend of ours has received a sort of circular, written in a childish hand on a scrap of exercise paper, informing him that "the council delegates of the above Australian society have been commissioned to form an English branch of the society and to commence recruiting for the membership forthwith." Those who join at once, it appears, will have "the primary chance of rising to prominent positions and offices in the society." As far as we can gather, the society aims at imitating Freemasonry and at the same time has some scheme up its sleeve for conveying colonists to New South Wales. Anyone who sends in what is called a preliminary application must accompany it with a fee of ten shillings; if he is elected he must subscribe five shillings a quarter, and, if he should be offered a post in the society, he will be "required to devote his whole time to the society unless agreements expressly state otherwise." A bit of a leap in the dark, is it not?

Jim Crow recently suggested that the Portuguese were originally negro pigmies. Now, however, it is claimed for them that they were Celtiberian Jews, and a story is told of the Portuguese king, Joseph I., having ordered all his Hebrew subjects to wear yellow hats; whereupon the Prime Minister turned up with three yellow hats, one for himself, one for the Inquisitor General, and one for his Majesty—for, said he, "I really do not know a single Portuguese of note who has not Jewish blood in his veins."

It appears that Portugal has not been at all a pleasant place for clean-shaven people lately. The natives, with the exception of the priests, all appear to indulge in face-fungus, and during the recent inquisition they tugged at the moustaches and beards of suspects to see if they were genuine, and beardless Englishmen had to take off their hats in order to prove that they were not tonsured. What happened in the case of the bald, history does not relate.

International courtesy is all very well, but we are surprised at the action of the Board of Trade counsel in the case of a French trawler which was caught fishing within three miles of the Essex shore. This is an offence which for the sake of British fishermen, ought to be put down severely; but the prosecutor said that he did not ask for a severe penalty in view of the excellent relations subsisting between this country and France. If the punishment of criminals is to depend upon the momentary amenities of our Foreign Office with foreign Chanceries, the lottery of the law will be even more of a gamble than it has been in the past.

Here is a familiar illustration of the working of the Party system. The Member for Grimsby is our honourable and scintillating friend, Mr. Tom Wing. He is an advanced Radical and professes the sincerest regard for the welfare of the fishermen of his constituency. At the recent Registration Court, however, this gentleman succeeded in knocking 300 of these poor fellows off the Register, on the technical ground that during the year they are absent from the division for a few days more than the number allowed by law! Of course one Party is as bad as another in this respect. Isn't it a scandal?

Until lately, the haughty, stand-off attitude was usually restricted to exponents of the older religions. Now, however, we find that Nonconformist ministers are beginning to give themselves airs. The Welsh Methodists at Maesteg have been lashing themselves into indignation over the ignominy of their deceased deacons being buried by clergymen. The Rev. James Rees, of Port Talbot, said he had told his church plainly that he would not go to any funeral at which he was not burying, and Mr. Enoch Morris said if his mother was to be buried by a clergyman he would not go to the funeral. This statement was received with laughter, so perhaps the indignation was not quite so serious as appeared at first sight. It was, however, decided to send a strong resolution to "the churches." Considering all the troubles of this wearisome world, isn't it rather strange that so many people should go out of their way to make a fuss about things which do not matter in the least?

Here is a letter from a London firm:—

> In August, 1908, we filled up a form for the Production Office of the Board of Trade. It was returned to us on September 15th, more than two years after, for further information. What use information two years old can be, one can imagine. Thought it might be useful to your paper to show what splendid business men we have in our public offices.

We suggest that our correspondents should take two years to reply.

What is this? Who says our War Office and Admiralty are not on the alert?

> Mrs. Fleming, of Little Chart Court, Ashford, Kent, requires a "Kentish Lady by birth"; shorthand, typist, good at sketching and French, with knowledge of all the outskirts of the South Coast towns, for Government secretarial work, to accompany her after next January on the Continent for an indefinite period; meanwhile the said secretary, previous to the requirements and duties of her post being stated, will be required by the Government to sign an official agreement binding her to utter secrecy. She will live till January in Mrs. Fleming's town flat, when an expert official will coach her for the profession and report daily to Little Chart. Good sailor and of an iron constitution. Salary £80 per annum, with full board and attendance; all travelling expenses.

"Little Chart Court" is not without its significance! We shall beat the Germans yet.

Her fortune tell? Yes, in a trice I—It's simply "Veni, vidi, vici."

And here is terrible news—from the *St. Thomas' (Woolwich) Parish Magazine*:—

> *The Band of Hope Outing.*—This outing, as we said in a previous number, concluded our many "treats." Some 64 were enabled to join in the beautiful drive in the brakes supplied by Mr. Sacre as usual, to Hainault Forest, Chigwell, which took place on Saturday, September 3rd. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thanks to Barnet Fair taking place that day, though we had no donkey rides, we made up for it by commandeering the swings which, in the absence of their owner, Mr. Riggs allowed us to use free of cost, so we took good care to have our full money's worth out of them. And they were grand swing boats.

Such juvenile depravity makes our heart bleed.

The good people of Ayr do not seem to be quite so canny as the rest of the inhabitants of North Britain. It seems that they have been imposed upon for quite a long time by an old gaol-bird, who calmly passed himself off as a clergyman of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He seems to have taken very little pains to hide his naughtiness; yet he was greatly revered by the fair members of his congregation. But what we want to know is, why the same people who were delighted with the exploits of the captain of Koepenick are so angry with this ingenious swindler. Surely it was even wittier and cleverer to impose upon pious persons in Scotland.

Where are all the Nonconformist divines, Balkan Committees, and other philanthropists, who were ever on the alert to denounce the atrocities of the "unspeakable Turk"? Why don't they find out what has been happening in Albania and tell us of the recent atrocities at Vinitsko, near the Montenegrin frontier—of mutilated men, outraged women and butchered babes? Has the recent revolution entirely blinded their eyes? In future we must take the righteousness of their indignation with rather more than a pinch of salt.

Our prognostications about foreign affairs have proved so accurate of late that we are impelled to point out that there is again trouble ahead in Morocco. The Sultan is boxed up in Fez, and is unable to collect any revenue. The French have now consolidated their authority in most of the coast towns, and will demand the lion's share at the impending partition of the Empire. But Germany has not yet given up her claim to compensation, and the new Spanish Republic, if there is one, will have to consolidate its popularity by reviving ancient claims. Nor can even Sir Edward Grey abstain altogether from putting in a plea for the reversion of Tangier.

The celebrated "Dr." Clifford has been chattering about foreign affairs. Although a Christian minister, he rejoices over bloody revolutions. But we are somewhat puzzled by his assertion that "there was an uprising of Christian communities in Bulgaria." As nothing has been happening in Bulgaria for quite a number of months, and as the Christian communities have no need to rise up, we can only suppose that the killjoy leader has not yet heard of Bulgaria's emancipation from Turkey. Shall we send him on a special mission to announce the death of Queen Anne?

A lady who signs herself "Helena" has been writing to the papers on behalf of a maternity hospital for Nairobi. Her appeal is specially addressed to "those who have enjoyed the sport it" (British East Africa) "provides so abundantly." What sport? Surely Roosevelt has exhausted all that!

The Vicar of Fosdyke is the Rev. E. Singleton, D.D., and he has been curdling the blood of his congregation by telling them about angels on earth, and how they are constantly at our sides, attending to our mundane interests. Of course, like most other professors of the occult, Dr. Singleton hasn't actually seen anything himself, but he knows someone who has—in fact, he knows two. Here is his story:—

> I would be bold enough to ask you to listen to me when I tell you two stories, not stories written to point a moral or written in a book—nothing of the kind; they came to me from the lips of the men whose experience they were. I know the place well, a place in my own country where I had a living, and going down a certain part of the country there is a very long steep hill, a most dangerous hill, called Crooked Wood. A friend of mine who is a clergyman had occasion to drive down that lonely mountain side, and the night was pitch dark. He could scarcely see, and when he came to a bad part of the road he distinctly felt a hand that took the horse's rein, and drew it to one side of the road. He went on a few yards, and the rein became loose. The next day when he came back, what happened? A tree had fallen over that spot, and if he had gone on he would have been dashed down a precipice. The other case is one in which a friend of mine was delivered from the commission of a dreadful sin by the interposition of an angel.

How much a year does Dr. Singleton receive for preaching this piffle? Assuming the facts as stated, the angel in the first case was probably a policeman on special point duty, and, in the latter, some good woman—who is the only kind of angel inhabiting this globe.

The Ogmore and Garw Urban District Council have appointed, as surveyor, a local youth of 21 years of age, though by advertisement they had already fixed the limit at 24; though he has served only two years or so of his articles; though he has no further experience whatever; though it is out of the question that he can be competent to supervise public works of importance to the district, and though two other candidates of much greater knowledge and experience were available. Will the Council explain their choice? Is it that they and this young man all go to chapel together?

Who is responsible for the atrocity of placing steel traps for rabbits in the public parks of Manchester? We are amazed that the City Council should be willing to have their humanity shamed and disgraced by permitting their servants to place about the public grounds these instruments of animal torture. Nobody with a heart who has ever heard the piteous cry of a wild rabbit caught in a steel trap, or who has seen it afterwards with its two legs broken, bleeding and struggling in agony, can feel anything except abhorrence and anger towards any man or any body of men who trap or encourage the destruction in this way of such animals. The citizens of Manchester ought to compel the immediate withdrawal of the traps.

"Meat! Meat! Meat!" Here is a delicious rebuke culled from the classic columns of the *Meat Trades' Journal*. It is in the form of an answer to a correspondent, and says, "The JOHN BULL Form IV. 'good' story is bad form. It is not fit for publication in a respectable journal such as ours." When a story is too bad for the slaughter house, it must be bad indeed!

It is strange that we always find Mr. Leo Maxse hanging on to the skirts of every independent movement in the Tory party. He was one of the most zealous defenders of the old brigade against Mr. Churchill, yet now we find him plotting "reveilles" against Mr. Abdul Balfour.

Posterity will quote her "pars."—"Vita brevis, longa ars."

Ashby-de-la Zouch is in the throes of excitement about two swings which the Town Council has taken away from the children's playground; at any moment we expect to see hair and teeth and gory bits of human flesh flying about as a result of a conflict between the councillors and the citizens. It may seem a lot of fuss to make over two swings. The fact is, they provided the children with never-ending amusement, and those who love the kiddies—and there are apparently many hundreds of such people in Ashby—have been moved to wrath and protest. Frankly, we are ashamed of the action of the Town Council. It does as little credit to their heads as to their hearts. The only intelligent, or intelligible, explanation is that a popular townsman, a Mr. Parsons, has offered to increase the children's opportunities of enjoyment by erecting a maypole or two see-saws, and that if the Council accepts them it will have to spend a few pounds more a year in maintenance of the playground and apparatus. Rather than do this, therefore, they have cleared away the swings and left the playground bare. There is a rumour in the town that at the next meeting the chairman of the Highways Committee intends moving a resolution for the confiscation of the children's lollypops.

The *Morning Post* has propounded a revolution for Parliamentary elections. Rival candidates are only to speak at meetings in each other's presence, under the chairmanship of the returning officer. This sounds like the old hustings, except that personalities, interruptions and, presumably, dead cats will be barred. Besides these meetings and the issue of election addresses, candidates may have no dealings or communication with electors. That is all very fine, but what about the Tariff Reform Associations and Gladstone Leagues and other outside bodies? How can they be muzzled? And suppose enemies go about whispering lies about a candidate? Is he to be debarred from defending himself?

Much as many may pity the sorrows of the Dukes of Devonshire and Westminster in their desperate struggles with Form IV., we have been compelled to reserve a tear or two for the lady inmate of Yarmouth workhouse to whom the discerning officials of the State sent one a few days ago. The Guardians—at the thought of entertaining a millionairess unawares—at once pounced on the form with an unanimity and an imagination which must have been beautiful to behold. Alas! when they had concluded their elaborate enquiries they discovered that the lady's estate assessable for land tax amounted to five shillings a year. But why be down-hearted? They should now dig down into the bowels of the estate in search of gold, silver, coal, diamonds, and other precious minerals. You never can tell.

One of the handymen of H.M.S. *Invincible* draws our attention to the recent remarks of Surgeon L. F. Cope, R.N., at a meeting of the British Assocation, on "Air and Ventilation in Modern Warships." He is angry with the officer for saying that the bluejacket "regards any attempt at the admission of fresh air as an infringement of his liberties." Then he gets in a right-hander. "Dr. Cope happens to be aboard this ship," says he, "and I have noticed several times that he is by no means fond of fresh air, or even of salt water, if it is at all lively." After all, however, there is no greater enthusiast for fresh air that the man who prefers the other fellow to have it. Did not even the Bishop at the diocesan dinner request the waiter to close the window at the back of his own head and open the one behind the young curate's?

We don't know whether Superintendent Crooke, of Stonehouse, is very innocent or only very nice. It was his duty a few days ago to prosecute "a well-known local jeweller," a Mr. King, for assaulting a policeman. On the evidence of an ex-soldier, the Superintendent asked, "If you saw Mr. King wrongly arrested, why did you not go to his assistance?" No wonder the suggestion startled the magistrate. Think of a police superintendent inviting spectators to rescue a man from custody—and then running them in for interfering with the police in the execution of their duty!

Mentioning policemen, reminds us that there is one of them at Dawlish who is by way of being a good Samaritan. He found a tramp in a state of collapse on a seat. Instead of leaving him to die, he had him taken to the police-station, gave him food, and sent for a doctor. As the doctor discovered that the tramp was "suffering from malaria, aggravated by want of food, over-fatigue, and alcohol taken on an empty stomach," he ordered him to the Dawlish hospital, where he was refused admittance. The doctor charged 7s. 6d. and the Guardians "have no power to pay the money." We suppose that the next time the policeman finds a man half-dead on the seat he will leave him there, and the doctor, if summoned, will refuse to come without his fee is paid in advance. But in that case the county will certainly have to pay somebody; if only the coroner and the undertaker.

A correspondent sends us an ingenious suggestion for defence against aeroplanes in war. Most experts are agreed that you may fire at a dirigible with some chance of success, but not an aeroplane. Those of us, however, who have travelled among the wine-growing districts of Italy and Switzerland will have remarked a sort of gun which is supposed to disperse hail-storms! How far it has been successful in that object is still disputed. But it does create a considerable disturbance in the air up to a height of some 1,500 or 2,000 feet. It would certainly be worth trying the effect on a hostile aeroplane, which might easily be brought down with a crash by a whirl of air-currents, especially as bombs can be dropped only from a height of 400-600 feet.

Of eight men found sleeping recently in a shed at Tonyrefail, the Porth Stipendiary sentenced five to one month's hard labour. "There is now no excuse for being out of employment," said he, "as the Government find work through the Labour Exchanges." A stipendiary who talks like this had much better keep his tongue still. The Government do not profess to find work for anybody, much less for everybody. The most the Labour Exchanges do is to put the man who wants work in communication with the man who has work to give, and they can only do this to the extent to which they are utilised as the means by which each seeks the other.

Here is an advertisement from the *Belfast News Letter*:—

> Wanted, a Grocer's Assistant, good provincial town—one accustomed to canvassing for orders; a Christian preferred—one real born again according to John 3rd chapter and 3rd verse.—Apply, stating salary, etc.

We wonder what chance a non-Christian applicant would stand, if he were sound on the question of salary?

An Italian named Dom Angelo Bartieri has invented a machine by means of which each note on a piano can be recorded *as played*. We wish some original genius would go one better, and invent an apparatus which would enable some of our friends' daughters to play each note *as it is recorded*.

Order promptly, now's your chance—MRS. BULL'S "Par excellence."

Reuter has been instructed to deny that the Foreign Office knew in advance of the revolution. When did the Foreign Office ever know anything in advance? There are some truisms the mention of which is supererogatory.

We shall watch the Portuguese colonies with interest. It is said that we could have had Delagoa Bay and prevented the Boer war, but we feared to provoke a rebellion in Portugal!

We beg to ask the Right Honourable gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether the cost of transporting the ex-King of Portugal to this country will be defrayed by the British tax-payer?

We are glad to see that the *Saturday Review* follows up our reviewer's suggestion about the insanity of Mr. Kipling. "There are numerous absurdities," it says, "which we can only suppose are due to the jig and rant of his verse getting into Mr. Kipling's head to the detriment of his reason." Our contemporary also points out that the man fills up his doggerel with strings of words used simply to fill up his lines, and we endorse the suggestion that, if this kind of thing is to be done, it would be far better to write "Butter and eggs and a pound of cheese," or "With my dumble dum dollykin dumble dum day." At any rate, we should then have a little bit of melody.

We have reason to believe that His Majesty the King will commemorate his Coronation next June by an extension to Ireland of the Territorial organisation, with certain limitations, thereby removing a legitimate Irish grievance.

THIS WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

The parson was saying how pleased he was that the children had all tried to bring something to the children's Hospital Service. "I was specially touched," he said, "when little Annie Smith came up and laid an egg upon the altar"!

NEXT TUESDAY IS THE DAY.

"MRS. BULL,"

the new Companion Journal to JOHN BULL, will then make her appearance.

It is safe to predict that this event will mark an epoch in the jounalistic world.

"MRS. BULL"

will be brim-full of good things. There has never been anything like it. She will talk to the Queen and the Queen-Mother; to the women who work in factory, shop, and office; even to the woman, fallen; *and she will have a lot to say to "John."* She will talk of the Home, the West-end, the Slums, the Shops, the Kitchen, the Nursery; of Fashions and Theatres, Actresses and Actors; of the New woman and the Old woman; of women at work and women at play; of Law and Finance; of Children and Food—of everything interesting to her sex.

Every issue will contain a complete Story. There will also be various special features. For instance, No. 1 will contain:—

"WHY I BECAME A SOCIALIST."

By THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK.

It will also contain a startling exposure of the state of things existing at a well-known London Children's Hospital—which should cause a sensation almost as great as that which will be aroused by the Reformatory School revelations appearing in the present issue of this journal.

Remember Tuesday, One Penny.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICES.

AGE.—Biscuits are not given to general servants "2 to 22," or to veterans of 8 years of age. The ages of the former are often inscrutable, while the latter may be enjoying their second childhood.
PATENT MEDICINES.—We do not give biscuits to patent medicine vendors for the injunction to the public to get "the same pills as Mr. Robinson had."
BRIDEGROOMS.—No more wedding cake for these harmless, necessary adjuncts when they go away "in a costume of rose vieux, trimmed with glace, with hat to match." They evidently foresee who is destined to wear the breeches, and they are lucky to get away at all.
MARRIAGES IN THE DEATHS' COLUMN.—No biscuits for these. They are often the grave of love.
LODGERS.—No biscuits for widows who want young men to share room. Most of them do.

For stating "Mr. S. Crossley presided at the harmonium. A collection was made at the close for REPAIRS TO THE HARMONIUM,"

THE ROCHDALE TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating (as reported in the "Aberdeen Free Press") that "He had seen Mr. Keir Hardie with ALL HIS CLOTHES OFF; *he knew the man's* SOUL,"

THE REV. ALEXANDER WEBSTER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "P.C. 403 W. said that prisoner had several previous convictions against him for ASSISTING *the police,"*

THE SOUTH-WESTERN STAR (Clapham Junction)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating "At about half-past nine a lady made her appearance in St. James's Street carrying a large basket of SUBSTANTIAL AND ATTRACTIVE FIREMEN,"

THE YORKSHIRE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Toronto Evening Telegram": "Wanted—Elderly man for night scrubbing, also CLEANING WOMEN,"

THE NATIONAL CLUB, TORONTO,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating "Some ladies I know are salting THEIR OWN *hams, and pickling* THEIR OWN *tongues, with excellent results,"*

A CONTRIBUTOR TO *THE WAKEFIELD EXPRESS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing "Light Refreshment Bar. 1S. PER HOUR,"

"F. J. NEALE MANLEY, PROP." (an Advertiser on the Programme of the Royal Theatre, Wolverhampton)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the announcement, "Combined Room Vacant, comfortable and quiet; suit steady men, one where MATERNITY *is expected,"*

"F." (an Advertiser in *THE EVENING CHRONICLE*, Newcastle)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating "His Majesty was deeply moved, but HAPPY *that he had* ESCAPED WITH NOTHING *but the loss of his Crown. Queen Amelia, biting* HIS *lips angrily, threatened to return and avenge herself,"*

THE DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating (as reported in the "Daily Mail" and the "Standard") "Mr. Balfour's speech at Edinburgh had been received with such an aspect of ferocity by his own party that he thought any words on the part of Liberals would be a REFINEMENT *of the rose and a* REGILDING *of the lily,"*

MR. MASTERMAN, M.P.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the maxim "If thou thinkest twice BEFORE *thou thinkest once, thou will speak twice the better for it,"*

THE NORTHERN WEEKLY GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

REFORMATORY SCHOOL HORRORS.

HOW BOYS AT THE AKBAR SCHOOL ARE BRUTALLY TORTURED—SEVERAL DEATHS.

The Akbar Nautical School at Heswall is under the control of a body known as the Liverpool Juvenile Reformatory Association. Its Superintendent is a young man named Beuttler, who was appointed to the position in 1908, when only twenty-eight years of age. Mr. Beuttler had had no previous training in the management of a reformatory school.

Some weeks ago we received a statement from Mr. Ronald Adam, late deputy-superintendent of the school, which was supplemented by a statement from his wife, late nurse-matron at the same institution. Mr. and Mrs. Adam informed us that they had resigned because they were sickened by the barbarities practised upon the boys. The charges made were of such a startling character that we thought it necessary to investigate them very carefully, and upon the spot. Accordingly our Special Commissioner examined not only Mr. and Mrs. Adam, but a large number of other persons of repute who have been connected with the school.

We should say that upon sending in his resignation, Mr. Adam received the following letter from Mr. Robert Blease, the secretary of the Liverpool Juvenile Reformatory Association :—

> At the committee, yesterday, the letter of resignation of yourself and Mrs. Adam, the head-teacher and matron respectively, was placed before them, and it was accepted with much regret.

We have seen other testimonials to the characters of both Mr. and Mrs. Adam, including one from the chaplain of the school, in which that gentleman speaks in high terms of both Mr. and Mrs. Adam. He says of the former that "he is a man of decided character, well educated, straightforward, and conscientious, a very good disciplinarian, just and kind, and a man possessed of sound judgment and strong common-sense"; and of the latter, "she is a capable nurse, a good manager, and extraordinarily unselfish and painstaking. No trouble is too much for her in anything she undertakes."

We have said enough to show that Mr. and Mrs. Adam are persons of character, acquainted with the requirements of schools like the Akbar, and not likely to make allegations without justification. They allege :—

The Charges.

1. That boys are muffled and gagged, then publicly caned and birched by instruments that bring blood at every stroke.

2. That boys are so caned for malingering when they are actually ill.

3. That more than once in recent months death has followed upon this treatment.

4. That for trivial offences boys are kept standing all night.

5. That they have been frequently drenched with almost freezing water.

6. That as a consequence of ill-treatment a large percentage of boys have been covered with sores.

7. That the chief officer, J. Lovelock, brutally ill-treats the boys, and is persistently guilty of foul and obscene language.

The Floggings.

With regard to the first charge, that of brutal caning and birching, in most schools where there is flogging it is done in private; at the Akbar School it is administered publicly in the school yard. The boys, some 210 in number, are drawn up in order, forming three sides of a square. A tressel, identical with the kind used to support a table, is brought out, and four of the boys are directed to hold the lad in position on the tressel. Each of these boys is responsible for holding an arm or a leg of the delinquent. His body is then bared, and the head lad of the school proceeds to wrap a blanket around the boy's head, and holds his hand over the victim's mouth, to suppress the yells which follow each stroke of the cane or birch. The gymnastic instructor, an ex-Guardsman, inflicts the punishment. As the big cane falls upon the bare skin it breaks it, exposing the raw flesh. Some of the new boys, and the weaker and nervous ones, turn their heads away from the sickening sight, and often have to be led out of the ranks in a fainting condition. At each stroke, a suppressed moan is heard from the boy who is being flogged, and who is securely held and gagged. Sometimes, however, if a strong boy, he contrives to move his head so as to moan in pitiable tones, "Let me breathe, Let me breathe."

In some cases the boy is allowed to be covered while being caned. On these occasions he takes off his ordinary pants and puts on a pair of running drawers as used on athletic tracks. These are as thin as butter muslin or gauze. The blood can be seen slowly oozing through them during the punishment.

The Official Regulations authorise whipping with a birch-rod for very serious offences, and for small offences "a small school cane" is to be applied "to the palm of the hand." But the birch-rod used at the Akbar School is not the usual birch made from twigs, but is one formed from the branches of hawthorn trees. The ordinary birch stings but seldom breaks the skin. A few strokes from the birch as used at the Akbar School produces blood. As the blow is struck, the birch wraps itself around the thigh of the boy, and his flesh in that quarter becomes like a piece of raw meat. As if that is not enough, the flagellator is frequently instructed to use both hands in holding the birch, as one would grasp the handle of a cricket bat. In this way greater force is given to the blow. And just as the birch used has little similarity to the ordinary birch, so the cane used has little resemblance to the ordinary school cane. We have one of these canes before us as we write. It is covered with a whip cord at the ends, and is ⅝ of an inch in diameter.

The superintendent of the school seems to have an idea that the boys are constantly malingering. We do not know how that may be, but we do know that many of them have been ordered to be flogged in the brutal way we described when they ought to have been in hospital. They have actually been taken from the sick bed to be flogged.

A Sworn Statement.

The following is taken from the sworn deposition of an ex-official, a man now engaged in responsible duties elsewhere, and who resigned, as Mr. and Mrs. Adams resigned, in sheer disgust :—

> The death of the boy named Brown was very sudden. He came in the laundry on the day of his death during the afternoon, and complained of being cold and ill. He was, in my opinion, too ill to work with the other boys I had there, so I sent him back into the school, and told him to report himself to the patrol officer as being ill.
>
> At 5 p.m., passing the first bathroom, I heard piercing screams from inside. The door was locked. I was informed that boy Brown was being cold bathed.
>
> The bathroom was in darkness, but I could just discern that two boys were pouring cold water over Brown, who was naked. The boys then stopped, and commenced to dress him. I understood from the sentry that this treatment was by orders. I did not see the boy again until 6 p.m.; then I saw two boys dragging him across the yard. He was in a state of collapse—could not walk or speak. I told the boys to take him to the hospital. They said that they were taking him

to school (the class-room). They took him into the schoolroom, and from there to the hospital. I was informed by a boy at 6.45 p.m. that he was dead.

In thirteen consecutive weeks there were sixty-six punishments inflicted upon boys as described above, exclusive of other punishments.

Hushing up a Death.

Last December a weak little fellow soiled his clothes. He was taken to the washhouse, when one boy was ordered to pump on him (the temperature at the time being close on freezing point), whilst another scrubbed him down with a rough brush. Two hours later the matron found the boy with all his clothes drenched with water. Seeing that he was very ill, she ordered him to be rubbed with dry towels and properly attended to, but it was too late to save him. He was sent to the hospital, where he died in about half an hour. At the inquest the Coroner severely censured the officer who was responsible for the punishment, but this official is still employed at the school, and the committee did not think it necessary to enquire into the case.

Another Death.

A lad named Brooks, from Lincoln, had been complaining for more than a fortnight of being unwell. The superintendent thought he was shamming, and ordered him to be flogged. Before the flogging actually took place, Mr. Adam saw the boy and protested, and so did the bandmaster; and their protests resulted in the superintendent reluctantly postponing the flogging. At 3.45 the same day the boy was dead. The doctor gave a death certificate, which reads as follows:—"Incipient lobar pneumonia one day. Heart failure."

Drenching the Boys.

The birch and cane are not the only punishments inflicted upon the unhappy boys in this school. There is, for example, what we may call the water punishment. Thus, a boy named Palmer, sent by the L.C.C. to the school, was taken out into the courtyard in wintry weather, when he had 52 buckets of cold water thrown over him. The procedure is for the boys of a division, 52 in number, to be lined up, and one by one they take a bucket of water—it was almost at freezing point on the occasion to which we are referring—and throw it over the boy.

"Standing" Torture.

Another punishment is to make the boys stand up all night. On July 30 the whole of the boys of the school had to stand up all through the night because some of them had been guilty of trivial offences. The procedure is for them to stand "at attention" for a quarter of an hour, when they stand "at ease" for the same period, and so on through the night, the punishment beginning at 9.45 and ending next morning at five. Then they are given 1½ hours rest, and have to be on the trot for the rest of the day. Another practice of the school is to deprive all the boys of a meal when one or more of them has committed a small offence.

Deprivation of Food and Clothing—and Disease.

The boys are (or were) insufficiently clothed in winter in jerseys, flannels, and pants ending above the knee. On Sundays they wear sailors' clothes. Orders are issued that no boy shall sit down or lean against a wall. They are always on the trot. Many of them sit down only at meals, and the constant want of rest swells their legs, which break into sores.

The deprivation of food, insufficient clothing, lack of rest, atrocious punishment, have their natural effect. In November some 40 of the boys were unable to drill through their feet being swollen. When sent to the hospital the boys have been known to sleep for a whole week, so prostrated were they. It is a pitiable sight to see boys going from the class-rooms to the navigation-room to have their wounds dressed. On April 30 last sixty boys were attended to for sores. On May 2, eighty five boys had sores dressed. After the canings most of the boys have to be medically treated, or have their wounds dressed in hospital, some having to be kept in bed with septic poisoning. Last winter two extra nurses had to be employed owing to the great number of cases of illness amongst the boys.

The chief officer is a man named Lovelock, who was a boatswain on a merchantman. He is a brute who revels in cruelty, and is constantly guilty of using filthy and obscene language. On Easter Monday last he ripped a boy's ear open, but though complaint was made no action was taken by the superintendent.

Confirmation of our Charges.

These are some of the charges made against the management of the Akbar School. We have confirmatory evidence from persons who have been officials of the school, and others again who are still officials. One who resigned because of the ill-treatment of the boys, authorises us to say that to his own knowledge the allegations of Mr. and Mrs. Adam are true. He says that he resigned because of the filthy language indulged in by Lovelock, and his brutal treatment of the boys. He has, as he tells us, "seen pieces of flesh cut out" by the cane used for flogging, and he has helped to take boys down off the tressel and give them water when in a fainting condition after the flogging. He tells us that nothing of the kind was ever known when Captain Bennett, R.N., was superintendent, nor was there anything like it when his successor, Capt. Powley was in charge. Attempts to escape were almost unknown, whereas now they are constant.

A Word with the Home Office.

If the Home Secretary is in any doubt as to the truth of the allegations, we tell him that proof is to be found at the school; it is to be found in the weals upon the backs of the boys, which will remain upon them while they have life; it is to be found in the records of the school, which testify to the number of floggings and other punishments; it is to be found in the hospital memoranda of the number of boys suffering from sores; and it is to be found in the evidence of a score of men and women of unblemished character, whose names and addresses we will supply.

An Inadequate "Enquiry."

It may be asked why, if Adam and his wife were so horrified at the treatment of the boys, they did not report the matter to the Inspector of Reformatories. They did so, and the Home Office sent down Mr. T. D. Robertson to hold an enquiry in Liverpool, but we do not hesitate to say that this enquiry was anything but exhaustive, and we shall be prepared to prove it if need be. It is sufficient here to say that if, as we are positively assured, Mr. Robertson is Mr. Beuttler's godfather, he ought never to have been nominated to hold the enquiry.

A Word for our Informants.

We have only one word to add, and that is with regard to Mr. and Mrs. Adam. Their action in the matter has been highly honourable to them. They have resigned their positions rather than be parties to these cruelties. They did not resign without having counted the cost. They knew that a black mark would be put against them, and that it would be almost impossible for them to get similar employment, the employment for which they are peculiarly suitable, in this country. And so it has turned out. So despairing are they of obtaining occupation in other reformatory or industrial schools that they intend to emigrate to Canada, where they believe the Government will welcome a man and woman in the prime of life who have proved themselves specially competent to take charge of erring youth. We hope, for the sake of the reputation of our country, that when the Home Secretary has sifted this matter to the bottom, and finds how praiseworthy has been the action of Mr. and Mrs. Adam, he will see to it that they are not driven to become exiles from England because they stood up for mercy and humanity.

"SLIPPERY EELS" AT THE L.G.B.

THE ASCOT DRAINAGE SCHEME.

In checking a much-needed sanitary improvement for Royal Ascot, the Local Government Board have given a striking object lesson of what officialism really is.

For about twenty years, attempts have been made to get through a main drainage system for this influential and well-known racing district, and members of the Windsor Rural District Council, who form the local authority, have not only been appealed to by the residents of the place, but have been badgered almost out of their senses by the Local Government Board, to proceed with a scheme.

After devoting their close attention to the matter, going to considerable expense in employing an eminent engineer to prepare a scheme, and also paying a big fee to Sir Alexander Binnie for his expert opinion, the Council applied to the Local Government Board for power to borrow the money required to carry out the work.

The Board held a two days' enquiry on the spot, and then, to everyone's surprise, refused to sanction the loan on the grounds that the outfall works would be too near (about half-a-mile) a human habitation, and that too many ejector chambers were shown on the plans.

Upon receiving this set-back, the Council, knowing how difficult it would be to obtain a site more than half-a-mile from a human habitation, and the impossibility of dispensing with ejector chambers in such a hilly neighbourhood, asked the Board how these objections were to be met.

In replying to this reasonable request, the Local Government Board plainly hinted that their duty was not to assist with any advice, but that it was rather to find objectionable features in schemes submitted for their approval.

As there are sewerage systems in operation—undoubtedly sanctioned by the Board or they would not have been laid—where exception has been taken neither to ejector chambers nor proximity of outfall works to human habitations, and the action of the Board throughout in the Ascot case has been so unaccountable, one of the Councillors present at a recent meeting of the Windsor local authority likened the London officials to "slippery eels."

The Council are now in this dilemma: If a new scheme is prepared, it will mean a long delay in effecting the improvement, and will inflict another burden—for which there is absolutely no reason—on the ratepayers. Then, in all probability, when the scheme has reached its final stages—the Local Government Board, curiously enough, will not interfere until the work is ready for the contractors—it may meet with the same fate as its predecessor.

One suggestion is that the Council should refuse to move further in the matter, and thus leave the Local Government Board to carry out their own apparently impossible task.

Meanwhile, Ascot awaits developments.

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE INSTITUTE.

HAS AN "OLD FRIEND" DONNED A "NEW DRESS"?

In our issue of July 23rd we drew attention to this concern, which was under the control of Mr. Caleb Manchester, Junr., stating that it proposed to form a temperance club, and that rooms had been taken at Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway. In order to induce the public to support the venture, it was stated that the Bishops of London and Hereford and Canon Hensley Henson were members of the committee.

A correspondent now sends us a copy of the *East Anglian Daily News*, of October 4th, containing the report of a charge against Caleb Manchester, described as a solicitor's clerk, of obtaining £5 by false pretences—such false pretences being that he was running a syndicate for the development of Clacton-on-Sea. Manchester (possibly with the idea of preventing his antecedents being enquired into) pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

The report states that one of the witnesses (a clergyman, by the way) said he "had heard of Mr. Caleb Manchester, Junr., on some occasions, but not in connection with this Syndicate"—and we think it would be worth the while of the Church dignitaries whose names have been connected with the National Temperance Institute to find out whether there are "two Manchesters in the field."

THE SWINDLING SEASON COMMENCES.

OLD ACQUAINTANCES AGAIN ON THE WARPATH.

The watch and chain gang are now actively putting out their somewhat fly-blown bait. The first concern to re-commence business was, as our readers will remember, "The London Jewellery Syndicate," of 61, New Oxford Street, W.C., but others of these pompously named concerns, which profess to gild refined gold by attaching to the word a prefix or suffix, are "The International Watch Syndicate (Z. J. Breen, Secretary)," of 25, Mulkern Road, N., and "The Imperial Supply Co. (Managing Director, J. Dixon)," 42, Junction Road, N.—these very old tricksters drop the "dear friend" in some of the watch trap circulars, but stick to it in an invitation to a phonograph swindle.

By the way, Dixon, as "Dixon and Co.," of 42, Junction Road, is still working one of his oldest tricks—"Mousta, the True Moustache Grower." He keeps to his old scheme—viz., the advertising of a sevenpenny box of this preparation; the sending of a letter stating that the 7d. would pay only for a sample tin, and requesting a further 1s. 11d. for a full trial box; then the forwarding to those who take no notice of this request of the "full" box, accompanied by a letter stating that it must be returned within seven days or the money forwarded—if no notice is taken of this, winding up with a letter, printed in imitation of typewriting, threatening legal proceedings if the 1s. 11d. is not sent on. There must have been thousands of victims of this trick, who have paid rather than go into Court and admit their stupid vanity. It is about time Dixon joined Lawrence, of the "Quintuple Phonic," and Douglas, of *Profit and Pleasure* notoriety, and we cannot understand how the police have overlooked him so long.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

THE PRICE OF MARTYRDOM.

(*At M. Bleriot's aerodrome at Hendon, eighty pounds is the fee for tuition in flying.*)

For eighty pounds you may learn to fly;
Becoming an airman if you will;
The terms are low to invade the sky . . .
But prussic acid is cheaper still.

FLEET STREET.

(*A hairy, long-armed man built a hut on the top of Ludgate Hill. And so, in the Flint Age, the first London street happened.*)

Oh Street of Fleet, of press and print;
Of many a cheery, seedy crony,
You've altered since the Age of Flint;
But men declare you still are "stoney"!

RICARDO.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

JOHN BULL'S GREETINGS.

October 21st.—MR. PLOWDEN.

If you showed greater mercy in joking;
And less in your dealings with crime;
Fewer victims would leave your Court choking;
But more would march off to "do time."
Then here's a long life and a jolly,
A happy succession of years,
During which may your genial folly
Still move us to copious tears.

October 23rd.—MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT.

'Twere vain to wish long life for the immortal;
Whom age refrains to touch, but passes by;
Who seemingly will never leave youth's portal;
And never die!

This journal figures conspicuously in "John Bull," a "stag scena," which the well-known artistes, Verno and Voyce, have recently brought out on the London music-halls. "John Bull's Cash Box," to give it its full title, tells of the necessity for the charitably inclined to remember that that virtue should begin at home. A needed text is supplied in the paper-seller, who comes on displaying prominently our familiar placard with the legend, "Fraud of Foreign Missions." Mr. Verno makes an ideal John Bull, while Mr. Voyce impersonates three characters in the little sketch.

Maids and matrons will adore her—MRS. BULL makes "Fugit hora."

WHOLESALE SCUTTLE FROM THE SALVATION ARMY.

RESIGNATION OF SIXTEEN PROMINENT OFFICERS.

The adage about rats running from a sinking ship finds its parallel in the general scrimmage of exalted officials to get out of the Salvation Army before the final break-up takes place. We have to announce this week, for instance, an unprecedented resignation of eminent officers. There has been nothing like it since the old General unfurled his "Blood and Fire" flag on Mile End Waste forty years ago. But the most tragic feature of the present scuttle is that an organisation which has been so successfully engineered in the Press by the Army's publicity department is allowed to break up without the public being made aware of it through the ordinary channels of information. It shows how successfully the Booth *regime* can blindfold the metropolitan Press and live on the glories of its past reputation.

THE BEST OFFICERS RESIGN.

Commissioner and Mrs. Coombs, after 35 years' service—no abler man ever handled a territorial headquarters of the Salvation Army. Not even the General himself has won more recruits to the Army. Clean, devoted to the point of fanaticism, and the friend of all the Governors and Premiers of Canada and Australia, his loss is disastrous to the prestige of the Army. Among Salvationists, it is a blow of the first magnitude. His wife is also an officer and superintended social work among women. All the children of these officers have followed their parents' example and dropped the uniform of the Salvation Army. The cause of their resignation is disagreement with Mr. Bramwell Booth's system.

Commissioner and Mrs. Sowton, after 29 years' service—two charming officers, held in most affectionate esteem by Salvation soldiers in America, Canada, India, England, and Scotland. The cause of the loss of these people is the modified tyranny of the Salvation Army system in India,

Colonel and Mrs. Howell, after 25 years' service. The Colonel has recently been held up in the literature of the Army as a man of splendid fertility of idea, a born Napoleon at colonisation and emigration.

Colonel and Mrs. Southall, after 25 years' service. Colonel Southall is an able administrator, a powerful orator, and one of the pioneers of the Army. His wife did excellent service for it in its early days.

Colonel and Mrs. Moss, after 28 years' service. Colonel Moss has for many years been editor-in-chief of the Salvation Army newspapers and magazines. His wife is considered the ablest woman speaker which the Army possesses among the social workers.

Brigadier and Mrs. Morris, after 22 years' service. The Brigadier's reason for the step is disagreement with Mr. Bramwell Booth's treatment of Canadian interests, He is a great loss to the musical battalions.

Major and Mrs. Patterson, after 25 years' service. The Major was the officer who suggested that parties of the Salvation Army emigrants should be guided from the shores of England to the prairies of Canada. His loss will be irreparable.

Staff-Captain and Mrs. Morris, after 20 years' service. A valuable man; was booked to take an important command when he told his superiors that all the gold of Klondyke would not get him to continue to uphold the system manipulated by the English officer, Colonel Mapp.

And there are more resignations to follow. The one drawback to an even more wholesale scuttle is the difficulties which discontents know will confront them when they do leave. They have been too long in the ranks to adapt themselves to the changed conditions which prevail in the trades or professions to which they belonged when they entered the Army.

FIVE HUNDRED OFFICERS NEARLY STARVING.

Many officers for other reasons would come out of the concern, but for the dread of having either to go into the workhouse or fall back upon charity or the assistance of poor relatives who objected to their ever entering it. And here arises a very grave scandal—probably the most outrageous in England at the present hour, when considered from an economic standpoint. It is difficult to ascertain exact details of a matter of this character, because of the secrecy to which officers are bound, and the absence of intelligent statements in the balance sheets, but we believe we are correct in stating that there are in the United Kingdom 500 Field Officers who are in receipt of less than five shillings per week salary. The gravity of this scandal lies in the comparison between one class of officer and another. A Field Officer stands in the same relation to the Army as a clergyman does to the Church. He raises the money for the rent, gas, cleaning, caretaking, tithe for the divisional commander, home and foreign missions, training home, as well as providing a great part of the profits which are made out of books, newspapers, uniform, musical instruments, tea, etc., and yet, while boys and girls strutting about Queen Victoria Street as ensigns, adjutants, staff-captains, majors, brigadiers, lieutenant-colonels, colonels, and commissioners draw. regularly from 30s. to £5 per week (in a few cases more), he and his compeers—men and women officers working in the streets and public-houses begging for the money that these grandees at headquarters spend—cannot get enough pay to buy a decent suit of clothes unless they apply for it as a grant. One class of officer—the colonels, etc.—are guaranteed their salaries; another class have no such guarantee, and of this class 500 are at the present moment next door to starvation. They have to cadge for their meals in the houses of the members of their corps, and resort to all sort of mean practices to "raise the wind" when an extraordinary need arises—and yet they have in many cases given the best part of their lives to the Army! The whole thing is a damnable anomaly, a colossal swindle, and a glaring and national hypocrisy. Strong words? Yes; but not one whit unwarranted. Bramwell Booth takes care that the ensign at his office gets 30s. a week, but the ensign at "Mudborough" is kept humble on 3s. per week and, for the sake of appearances, allowed a grant of 2s. more.

THE GENERAL'S "EXPLANATION."

When asked to explain these glaring inequalities, the General says that he promises his officers nothing but hard work and poverty—but he never tells the public how an ensign at his headquarters gets 30s. per week and an ensign working in the slums only 3s. 6d., why one is a human peacock and the other worse than a pauper.

Colonel Whatmore, the gentleman who superintends the field affairs of the Army, was asked why a woman officer working in a small town in Norfolk drew only 4s. per week and a similar official in a town near by drew 16s.; the Colonel's reply was that the difference was accounted for by the poverty of the one place and the larger number of soldiers at the other, and the working of the principle of self-support. In that case, Colonel, the principle is rotten, and we are surprised that you can sleep in your bed at night and know that you are at the head of a system which degrades English men and women and makes them in course of time cringe and kow-tow to things which would make a Russian moujik blush. Be a man, Colonel, and at the Council which has been called to discuss the articles of JOHN BULL, stand up and say that you will not draw a single penny from the funds of the Army till this infernal system is altered—and it will be altered. You have some pluck. Let us see how you can use it.

As we go to press we are glad to see that the *Daily Chronicle* is also calling attention to the matter.

A PHILOSOPHIC DICTIONARY.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

Alcohol.—I suppose that it would have occurred to very few people to look up this word in the dictionary, but there is so much prejudice about that I determined to be on the safe side. Accordingly, I now make you a present of Dr. Johnson's definition: "An Arabick term used by chymists for a highly rectified dephlegmated spirit of wine, or for any thing reduced into an impalpable powder." For the hardness of your hearts and the poverty of your verbiage, I will remind you that to dephlegmate means "to clear from phlegm or aqueous insipid matter." So now you will be able to enter your tavern with a high head and a clear conscience, and, instead of asking for some particular brand of whisky, require assurance from Hebe as to the due dephlegmation of your bouse. This may, of course, inspire doubt as to your sobriety, and, should she refuse to serve you, there will at any rate be the consolation of suffering in a good philological cause.

Trouble in Taverns.

You may also gratify your curiosity at the same time by testing the question whether a Boniface has a right to pick and choose his customers. Arm yourself, of course, in advance with a medical certificate as to your complete sobriety. Otherwise you may suffer like a friend of mine, who, being unusually pickled with alcohol, once tried total abstinence for twenty-four hours, and was then refused liquor on the ground of his obvious tipsiness. I have heard it argued that a vintner is perfectly entitled to say to a thirsty man, "No, I do not like the look of you; you must go elsewhere," or "You are no good to me. If I have you hanging about my bar, my regular customers will be driven away." I believe that a case of this kind arose in the early days of bicycling, when some incipient suffragettes entered a hostelry in bloomers, and were refused refreshment because their appearance attracted undue attention. If my memory serves me, the decision was that the vintner was bound to serve them, but could please himself as to *where* he would do so. In fact, he might beckon them away to a private room, or—who knows?—perhaps even hurry them off to the coal-cellar.

This reminds me that Voltaire, in his "Questions sur l'Encyclopédie," says, with regard to the word Alchymiste, that "this emphatic Al places the alchymist as much above the word chymist as the gold, which he manufactures, is above the other metals." In the same way, no doubt, there is something gorgeously superior about the first syllable of that noble word Alcohol which places it in a far finer category than Coal. Pshaw!

Sleeping in State.

Alcove, like most mellifluous words, comes from the Castilian. It is "a recess, or part of a chamber, separated by an estrade, or partition, and other corresponding ornaments; in which is placed a bed of state, and sometimes seats to entertain company." Does not a bed of state fire your imagination? There is something particularly grateful and comforting about all the ceremonial of life, the stately procession from the drawing-room to the dining-room, the trumpeters who claim silence for your toast-master, all the magnificent mediæval ritual of a carouse. But it only occurs to minds of the loftiest dignity to sleep in state. For that purpose, I think that the alcove should contain a four-poster, carved by Grinling Gibbons, shielded from the vulgar by tapestries of royal needlework. The hangings should, of course, be drawn aside with much pomp and circumstance, perhaps, even, with a flourish of shawms, by the powdered menial who brings your early cup of highly rectified dephlegmated spirit.

Coves for Carouses.

Pope summed up the situation with the gorgeous lines:—

"Deep in a rich alcove the prince was laid,
And slept beneath the pompous colonnade."

And that well-named poet, Tickell, conjures up visions of ecstacy when he speaks of "the wearied champion lull'd in soft alcoves." But, after all, most of us do not associate alcoves with lullabies or snores. For us it is a place of flirtation, a recess on the stairs, where we may murmur sweet nothings during the intervals of the dance. Or, robbed of its emphatic particle, it invites us to a cove of soft, silvery sand, where we may set kill-joys at defiance and indulge in mixed bathing.

Dearest and Best.

Alderlievest must not be passed over, for it is one of those splendid portmanteau words for whose obsolescence we have to thank hustlers like Mr. Peter Keary, the immortal author of that famous classic "Get on or Get out." But much as I admire and emulate that protagonist of progress, I vow that he shall not rob my love-letters of alderlievest—most beloved, most dear—for surely there can be none so haughty, none so fair, that she will refuse to descend from her pedestal when I murmur "alderlievest" in her alcove.

Alderlievest Ale.

Ale.—Tut! tut! What a come-down from these sentimental simperings to an infusion of malt in hot water. But you are to reflect upon the glorious molten amber, the auburn nectar, which might almost have been distilled from the flowing locks of your alderlievest. You are to ponder over the influence of old ale upon a great nation, the courage and determination, wit and common sense, which lurk in the flowing tankard. Ale is no mere beverage. It also signifies a merry meeting. The undergraduates of Oxford invite each other to "a Wine," and in the same hospitable spirit, it gives me much pleasure to summon you all to an Ale. Warton, in his "History of English Poetry," is my authority: "That ale is Festival, appears from its sense in composition; as, among others, the words Leet-ale, Lamb-ale, Whitson-ale, Clerk-ale, and Church-ale." So, you see, you only have to give it a name, and then Mr. Keary's disciples may safely be summoned to make merry at a Clerk-ale.

Bouse on the Bench.

Meanwhile, I should like to revive, among other memories of the good old times, the ale-bench, which used to be found outside every country tavern, and served as an open-air parliament, far more alluring and conducive to good-fellowship than the musty atmosphere of Westminster or the tap-room. But I am somewhat puzzled by Dr. J. White's remark, in his sermon at Paul's Cross in 1615, that "good ale never wanted a friend upon the bench." Of course, he may have been referring to the seat which I desire to restore as an antidote to frowsy fanaticism. Still, if the reverend gentleman had lived in our day he might have run a serious risk of being brought up before Mr. Justice Avory, and invited to show cause why he should not be committed to prison for contempt of court.

Aimless Almanacks.

Almanack.—There have been endless disputes about the origin of this word, and most wiseacres incline to the opinion of Verstegan that it comes to us from the Saxons, who did not even know how to read. If so, it was originally concerned with observations of the moon, and we may divert ourselves with a variety of fantastic theories. It appears, according to some theologians, that twelve Apostles were chosen because there are twelve moons in the year, but, later on, a Protestant of the period pointed out that there ought to be thirteen, so Saint Matthias was added to the number: it is certainly remarkable that his festival takes place in February, the month with which we play Old Harry in leap-years. For this kind of investigation would lead us much too far. I am more immediately interested by a remark of Voltaire that all the Almanacks of his time were inaccurate. I want to know whether it matters to anybody, except an astrologer, what the relations of Jupiter are, say, to the Virgin, or to any other sign of the Zodiac; and if these points are utterly unimportant, why do we trouble to have almanacks at all?

The Tyranny of Time.

When I come to think of it, I am not sure that it matters very much whether we know what day of the week or month it is. We do not behave differently because we find that this is Thursday and not Friday, and as for the necessity of a method for keeping appointments, most people will agree that they are usually so disagreeable that they might as well not be kept at all.

Almanacks were reduced to an absurdity when some silly legislator proposed to make us all get up earlier, by the simple device of setting back our clocks in the summer. If, as many people appear to think, this was quite a sensible proposal, there is no reason why we should not dispense with great-coats by proclaiming summer all the year round, or, like one of Mrs. Baillie-Saunders' characters, introduce a Fine Weather Bill.

Sweet in song as lark or mavis—she's indeed a "Rara avis."

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THE WHITE STAR LINE AND ITS THIRD-CLASS PASSENGERS.

A WORD PICTURE OF THEIR TREATMENT.

When I wrote last, I attempted to describe somewhat of the accommodation offered by the White Star line to its third-class passengers. Since then, I have acquired a further stock of experience, and now, landed in New York, am able to congratulate myself on having escaped from perhaps the worst inferno it has been my lot so far to pass through.

Our first night on board was got over somehow. I had an end bunk near a porthole, and, fortunately, the next bunk to mine was untenanted.

Breakfast was served at 7 a.m., consisting of porridge, half-cooked and full of hard lumps, followed by Irish stew and hot fried sausages. This sounds good, but when I add that both stew and sausage were dumped together on one plate—the sausage floating around in the stew—the illusion is dispelled. The bread was good, but of the butter the less said the better; and I may add that I found myself all through the trip quite unable to eat it. I should add that butter, sugar, salt, etc., were common to the whole table, and that neither knives nor spoons were provided for serving them.

On our arrival at Queenstown, we took on board about a hundred fresh steerage passengers.

However, "right here" I made a discovery which placed a somewhat better face on my own personal side of affairs. What complaints and indignation could not compass, backsheesh did, and later in the day I found myself one of the occupants of a four-berth cabin aft—nominally the married quarters. There was no concealment about the transaction. The accommodation was there, for those who liked to pay for it.

While on the food question, however, I would protest most emphatically against the wretched cooking and the coarseness of much of the food provided.

We had two days of exceptionally heavy weather, and most of the passengers were sick; yet no attempt was made to provide lighter or more palatable food. Broth was supposed to be served to women and children, but there was never enough to go round.

Much has been heard of the morality of the steerage, but although I kept a pretty close watch, I could detect nothing actually improper. Want of opportunity possibly would account for much of this, as stewards, deck hands, stokers, and all the scum of the ship, were allowed to mingle freely with the passengers; in fact, there was nowhere else for them to go, and the horseplay, language, expectoration about the deck, etc., which went on every evening till 9.30, when the "women" (married or otherwise) were ordered below—("ladies," by the way—this includes first and second cabin only—could stay on deck all night if they wanted)—were simply disgusting to decent people.

It would be useless for me to recount the many petty, uncalled-for annoyances by which the third-class passenger is made to know his position. In the better classes the stewards and crew are your most humble servants; in the steerage they claim equality, at least, and in most cases it is they who order and the passenger who meekly obeys.

There was a deplorable lack of shelter and seating accommodation. Empty boxes, brought up by stewards to be thrown overboard, were eagerly begged for. The few seats there were, were, as a rule, in exposed positions, and totally untenable in bad weather. During the gale, while canvas screens and "dodgers" of all kinds were furnished to the first and second classes, not the slightest attempt was made at shelter for the miserable third class.

I am not a "grouser" by disposition, and I venture to say that there is not one of my fellow passengers who will not endorse every word I say.

Many of us were of decent social position, and at least 30 out of the 308 on board would have travelled second-class if they could have got berths. The universal opinion seemed to be that passive resisters were a very much over-rated body, and that for the future most of us would have very little hesitation in doing our "seven days" in lieu of paying a fine.

CIRCUMLOCUTION AND THE HOME OFFICE.

HOW IT WORKS IN THE REVISION OF JUSTICES' JUSTICE.

If nothing else had justified the existence of John Bull it would have been justified by the success of its campaign against "justices' justice." Public opinion has been aroused to a full sense of its glaring iniquities, the activities of the Home Office have been stimulated in dealing with them, and a wholesome fear of John Bull's whipping-post is visible, in many places, among the justices themselves. For all this there was not only an imperative need, but an imperative call. Take the case of the man sentenced by the Newmarket magistrates to a month's imprisonment, without "the option," for trespassing in pursuit of game, though it was his first offence, and the police had otherwise nothing against him. The Home Secretary has now released the man. Even so, he has served twenty-one days of his sentence, so that the unconscionable outrage of the magistrates was all but completed.

It is not the good intent nor the thoroughness of the Home Office in these matters we complain about, but the cumbrousness of its methods and the tardiness of its action. In this case, for instance, what happens? "On the Home Secretary being informed, he requested the magistrates' clerk to call a meeting of the justices and forward their report on the merits of the case," and not until he received their report does he intervene. But it surely must be obvious that the purpose of intervention may be frustrated by this elaborate process. Here is a sentence which, on the face of it, obviously needs instant revision on the confirmation of one fact alone, namely, whether the man had been in previous trouble with the police, because by the time the Home Secretary was likely to be made acquainted with the injustice, if any, done, at least a week (probably more) of the sentence inflicted would have been served. A messenger from the Home Office, dispatched to the office of the magistrates' clerk at Newmarket, would have established that one fact within twenty-four hours.

Not only so. Within twenty-four hours he could have copied the depositions in the case and interviewed the chief of police. Instead of which, the magistrates' clerk is requested by letter to summon a meeting of the justices. Being himself, possibly, the actual adviser of the magistrates in the matter, hustling is conceivably not a term which could be applied to his responsive action. But assuming that he summons, in haste and not at leisure, a meeting of the justices, it may be that the magistrates concerned are not all available for meeting on the date suggested; consequently, he may have to accommodate some later date to their convenience. The meeting having been held with the feeling in mind that a Home Secretary and an interfering public opinion are the most noxious nuisances that ever bothered a much bothered world, they take time to consider their report, the magistrates' clerk takes time to write it out, the postman takes time to deliver it, the Home Office takes time to consider it, and, as a result, releases the subject of its elaborate inquiries. Meanwhile, of course, the man is in gaol, doing hard labour if his month's sentence included hard labour. By the time the inquiries have been completed, he has actually served twenty-one days of the term, though it is clear that a fine within his means of payment would have fully met the substantial justice of the case.

True, the man gets out of gaol a week sooner than he otherwise would have done, but to all intents and purposes the Home Secretary has made it possible for the magistrates to laugh up their sleeves at the practical failure of his intervention. And what has been effect of imprisonment on the man? The preposterous, wicked sentence has made him a gaol bird. He has not been given even one warning or chance to go straight. At his first fall—and not a very serious fall, either, when confined to "trespassing in search of game"—he is vindictively punished by judges to whom the maintenance of outrageous game laws is almost a class privilege. Though the Home Office is more alive than it was a few years ago, it is still not alive enough. Whether a Home Secretary, for the purpose of doing what is right, is more or less rough and ready in dealing with justices, is of small importance beside the necessity of prompt intervention when they do what is obviously wrong.

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WHAT IS A CLERK?

An article of far-reaching importance to all who are engaged in business. Useful alike to the Clerk, the Salesman, the Traveller, the Manager, or the Proprietor of any Business, large or small.

If any man who reads this question should himself chance to be a clerk he would undoubtedly be indignant if we were to give as our definition of a clerk—"The man who failed." Yet such is the case if we examine facts with an impartial mind. Men who succeed make definite positions for themselves. They become managers, salesmen, travellers, experts of some kind or another. But the clerk remains just the clerk, because he has no qualification which enables him to do anything more than office work of a more or less mechanical order.

"Yes," we shall be told, "but there are many men who, although they are simply clerks, possess sufficient ability and sufficient brains to make them capable of commanding success in other directions."

Exactly so. There are many clerks who could be successful in other directions, but the fact remains that they are not. Why? Why do they remain in the ranks of

The Clerkly Failures?—

for the very over-crowding of the ranks of clerks and the average poorness of the pay proves that they are the mass of mediocrity and failure from which the clever and capable few have been sifted out.

It is not that the clerk has no ability, but it is that he has never learned to apply that ability. Anyone who takes the trouble to inquire into the source of success will at once receive a very convincing demonstration of the fact that to-day *it is knowledge that wins*. In other days influence and the simple virtues of punctuality, steadiness and sobriety were sufficient to ensure a man regular and mechanical advance in his business, but now this is no longer the case. The only men who move up are the men who increase their knowledge.

There is no college, or institution, at which commercial knowledge or information of that sort that a man needs in order to better himself in business can be acquired, but recently there has been published a book which is of the utmost value and importance to any and every man engaged in any kind of business, trade or profession.

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which is not an encyclopædia in the ordinary sense of the word, but an encyclopædia of a specialist kind. It is the first Encyclopædia of Business ever issued, and its immediate success, and great popularity, prove unquestionably that it is an encyclopædia which has been wanted for a very long time. It gives exhaustive expert information on every point of business detail; on professional and legal matters; on financial matters, and on all matters relating to the conduct and progress of business.

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To Get a Better Position.

The office manager finds it valuable because it helps him to organise his staff and his work. It is valuable to the managing director, or the secretary, or the accountant, or the correspondent for similar reasons. If all these men find it valuable to them, what justification is there for your thought that it will not be equally valuable to you? The greatest mistake that any man can make is to think that he can dispense with aids which more successful men have found indispensable. The reason they succeed is because they do not disdain expert help. In the "Business Encyclopædia" you can have the help always ready at your elbow, ready to refer to whenever need arises.

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THE NOVEL OF THE SEASON.

By Herbert Vivian.

Mrs. Baillie Saunders writes too rarely. It seems very long since I first revelled in her "Litany Lane." She is probably right in refusing to repeat a particular pleasure, for there lie the lanes of disappointment, but I miss in "The Bride's Mirror" (Hutchinson, 6s.) some of the heat and colour of her previous reflections. Where, too, are the smells of yesteryear, those faint, pervading aromas which haunt the memory far more emphatically than sights or sounds? I had to travel to the 207th page until I encountered "that smell of dusty warmth, old leather, and warm iron which characterises all museums."

The fact is, Mrs. Baillie Saunders has now soared to a higher plane, and can afford to dispense with small artifices. She still bewilders by sustaining our interest in odious persons. Like Rubens, she paints with real flesh and blood. And she is an Impressionist as well as a Colourist. Her book reminded me many times of Mrs. Humphrey Ward, who is also an artist, but does not rivet the attention or chain the imagination so resolutely; who might have conceived but could never have given life to Hammeryard, the grim, grimy Socialist, exhaling all the foul fumes of Fleet Street, a modern Ironside, brainstormy, brutal, bombastic. Readers will wring their hands over the various stages of his hypnotic domination over the heroine, but they will push on breathlessly in hope of retribution. While envying, they cannot fail to admire the author's restraint when chronicling the indiscretions of foolish or repulsive people. She is always the recording angel, never the advocate. What a happy historian she would make! For all her characters, as Disraeli said of Don Quixote, "live to us." If we met them in the street, we should certainly know them, though we might not want to shake them by the hand. And of course it is the first duty of a novelist to make us intimate with the persons of her drama. Even the police news of our halfpenny papers acquires interest when we have the personal acquaintance of the prisoners. Nor is her drama less vivid and engaging because it unrolls itself with all the sobriety of daily life.

There are many passages which I should like to quote. But I will content myself with two which are pre-eminently characteristic. Here, for instance, is a cameo:—

> Hammeryard, for all his cleverness, had no retort. His early surroundings and origin would out, like murder, in a heavy, semi-contemptuousness where women in their social relations were concerned. Coming from a class whose women have no social or mental importance whatsoever, he was, like most of his kind, tardy indeed in learning to regard them as anything but housekeepers, slaves, or animals. No journalistic wit could turn him into a gentleman in this respect.

And here is evidence of a keen observation:—

> Undertakers are always Conservative. I don't know why, except, I suppose, because death is.

Yes, and every other horror.

CHILDREN BARRED.

BAD EXAMPLE SET BY THE CHURCHES.

Our attention has been called to an advertisement in the *Christian World*, which runs as follows:—

> Wanted a man and wife between 30 and 40, living in or near London, and without children, as caretakers of a Congregational Church in South London.

The correspondent who sends us this advertisement says that he has been trying for some months to get a situation for a most respectable man, who at present is in a very trying position, and who happens to have three children, two girls of 18 and 16, and a boy of 3. He applied for a similar position in the Y.M.C.A. of a provincial town, and received the following reply:—

> The Secretary begs to return Mr. T.'s testimonials, *which are most satisfactory*, but the Committee have decided that there should be no children.

Surely it is time to protest vigorously against so penalising a man because he is a father. The Churches unite in urging people to "be fruitful and multiply" and in lamenting the present tendency to limit families, and yet we find them making children a bar to employment, when they have it to offer.

HOW TO PREVENT STRIKES.

AN OLD TORY'S DRASTIC PROPOSALS.

In view of serious discomfort and disorganisation of business caused throughout the whole of France by the railway strikes, the following suggestions are apropos. It should be declared illegal, with sufficient penalties, for anybody serving the following public departments to strike:—

(*a*) the railways which afford transit to the population;
(*b*) the tramways ditto;
(*c*) bakers, who supply the populace with food;
(*d*) coalminers who supply the populace with fuel;
(*e*) post office and telegraph departments which provide the transmission of letters and immediate despatches.

All questions in dispute between employers and employees in all these departments should be referred to a Board of Arbitrament, whose decision should be final, and whose constitution should be passed at once—the essence of this legislation being that the public service and the needs of the people shall not in any way be interfered with by the action of either the employers or employed.

Of course this could only take effect at the end of a given number of years, because those who have entered the present services have done so on certain lines, and therefore it would be unjust to interfere with their present positions. But all those who enter the public services, or in the case of bakers, private, would know that they enter those services with the right to strike obliterated.

Of course what I am writing is very drastic, and therefore a conservative emanation only, but I fancy that to you and those of your way of thinking it may appeal. We were recently in face of a huge strike which would have affected adversely the interests of trade, and therefore of the nation. "Salus populi suprema lex."

THE CANVEY ISLAND TITHES.

A SURPRISING STORY OF CLERICAL EXTORTION.

From Canvey Island (that home of all kinds of cranky "back to the land" experiments) we are informed that the Vicar (the Rev. Joseph R. Brown) and the Rector of Hadleigh (the Rev. Douglas Adamson) have, without any precedent, made a demand on a number of small plot-holders on the Island for payment of tithes. There is bitter complaint as to the method of collection, of which we are assured a typical case is the following: The owner of a bungalow, built on a piece of ground less than half an acre in extent, has received from Mr. Brown a demand for over £14, two years' tithe rent of the whole of the tithe area of more than 28 acres—and this, though £20 was paid in the purchase money for tithe redemption. The reverend gentleman suggests that the unfortunate small-plotter should make his co-owners (of whom there are probably 200) pay their shares, but as their names are unknown to him this would doubtless be a very expensive matter. The upshot of the claim will be watched with keen interest and, even should the reverend gentlemen be legally successful, we think their congregations will have small cause to congratulate themselves upon possessing exemplars of equity and religious dealing.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

Give me the address of the British hospitals at Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Madrid.

Is a prisoner on remand allowed to purchase or have his food sent in from outside the prison?

Will you kindly tell me if £399 19s. 2d. plus 1-960th part of a farthing is the correct answer to the following sum?—£19 19s. 11¾d. multiplied by £19 19s. 11¾d.

Do bust developers promote cancer?

Has France paid Germany the indemnity for the Franco-Prussian War?

Is there a maniac connected with Wallace Hughes' fire, Brixton?

Is Crippen a Freemason?

How much money was contributed by Britain toward foreign missions last year, and how much of this was contributed by brewers, etc.?

Poetry—like Pope or Dante—MRS. BULL, here's "A votre sante."

A HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

By ROBERT FREKE GOULD.

Barrister-at-law, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England.

This great work, of which a new issue is now appearing, is an exhaustive study of everything relating to Freemasonry, its antiquities, symbols, constitutions, customs, and history; it includes a full investigation of the authentic records of the fraternity all over the world.

It is therefore a treasury of information on a subject on which expert and reliable information has hitherto been almost inaccessible.

But "The History of Freemasonry," apart from its value as a reliable work treating of all historical and practical information relating to the Craft, is a book of the most fascinating interest, and one which will be read again and again by every Mason who wishes to keep in touch with the glorious records of his Society, as well as by the large class of general readers, to whom out-of-the-way information on a subject that is confessedly invested with mystery always appeals.

The magnificent illustrations include 36 fine coloured plates illustrating Masonic clothing and regalia, high-class etched frontispieces, and fine engravings of Masonic Marks, Medals, and Plates of Arms.

Its All-round Excellence.

Whether we consider this beautiful edition of "The History of Freemasonry" from the point of view of its fulness of detail, the interesting and even fascinating nature of its treatment, its wealth of illustration, its excellence as to type, paper, and handsome binding, there is no doubt that the work is really worthy of a great and important body that has not hitherto received its fair share of consideration at the hands of the historian.

Three Opinions.

The Right Hon. Thomas F. Halsey (Deputy Grand Master):

"I must congratulate you on the way the work is got up, which I think most admirable. It will be a most valuable book of reference and study to all who take an interest in the Craft."

Mr Edward Letchworth (Grand Secretary):

"A decided improvement on previous issues, and I hope you will have a good sale for it."

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By DR. ANDREW WILSON.

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Ambulance Work

is fully treated and lavishly illustrated.

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In this connection the coloured "mannikins" or "dummies," in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

The section devoted to "The Family Medicine Chest" gives the description, uses and doses of drugs, used as drops, lotions, ointments and gargles.

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Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

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Cousin Pons,
La Duchesse de Langeais,
The House of the Cat and Racket,
Gobseck,
Old Goriot,
Eugenie Grandet.
The Lily of the Valley
The Illustrious Gaudissart,
The Village Curé,
The Country Doctor,
The Magic Skin,
The Unknown Masterpiece.

But some of these are short, and as some of them have been, though they are complete in themselves, written in co-relation to other novels, it has been thought well to add to the thirteen selected by Mr. Shorter a few of the other novels of Balzac's. Each one of these possesses distinctive excellencies, and the Balzacian who is most jealous of his author's fame would not willingly have left one out.

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THE RECRUIT.

FROM HIS OWN POINT OF VIEW.

By John Bider.

A certain section of the daily Press was to blame in the first instance; it made me think. I do not desire to infer that that was anything remarkable or unusual, but the result of my thinking was that I joined the Blank Territorial Corps.

My ignorance of things military was wonderful, and my practice in warfare had been limited to slaying of unwary rabbits with a gun shaped like a walking-stick. I think I had killed one.

I am naturally of a modest and retiring disposition, and it took not a little moral courage to face the recruiting officer; I found out later he wasn't an officer, but only a sergeant; but he had a lot of gold braid splashed over his arm and that misled me.

Naturally I felt rather heroic over my self-sacrifice, and I thought that the corps ought to appreciate my courage; but that recruiting sergeant was woefully unfeeling; he was not in the least enthusiastic. It appeared that I was not the only recruit who came before him, and he was getting weary.

He asked me a lot of silly questions, and then I had to sign a large paper; I didn't read all that was on it, I didn't have time; I might have signed my birthright away for all I knew. He told me to come back the next evening to pass the doctor.

I spent the intervening hours trying to find out if there was anything the matter with me, but my medical knowledge is small. My tongue was very white, but then I had had a bad attack of indigestion the previous day. I didn't think he'd pluck me on that account.

I looked all over myself and felt everywhere, and everything seemed all right; I couldn't find my pulse, but then I never can; I knew it must be there. I hadn't a stethoscope, but I got our phonograph trumpet and held it to my chest, and got my young brother to listen; he said he couldn't hear much, so he supposed I was all right.

I went early next evening so as to get a good place. I wanted the doctor to see me before he got tired. I didn't want him to miss out anything.

I had to undress, along with a lot more, down in the basement. I hadn't a coat with me, so I borrowed one from among a lot more hanging on some hooks. The doctor's room was up at the top of the building, and as we went up we had to pass the entrance hall where were a lot of fellows who cheered each one of us as we went up. I didn't mind,—I was getting desperate.

In the doctor's room, I received my first severe shock. Moreover it was a shock to my vanity, which made it worse. I had to stand under a piece of wood on a vertical slide and be measured. The orderly read out 5 feet 8½ inches. I felt he must be wrong, and I told him so; all he did was to roar "Silence!"

I know he was wrong. I am 5 feet 10 inches. I have measured myself lots of times. I always tell my friends I'm 5 feet 10½ inches; it sounds much better, and surely half-an-inch doesn't much matter; so I know that man must have measured me wrongly, but he wouldn't let me argue with him, so I kept a dignified silence.

The doctor was examining a man when I went in. He was a fat man, and he stood on a small piece of carpet just in front of a gas stove; I supposed it was to keep his legs warm. The doctor was a thin, little wiry man, and he was jumping round the fat man like a monkey, pinching him here and punching him there, and calling out different numbers to the orderly, who put them down opposite the man's name on a large sheet of paper. The fat man didn't seem to mind; his face was turned up towards the ceiling, so he couldn't see what the doctor was going to do next; he had a broad smile on his face, and when the doctor tickled his ribs he laughed outright; the orderly roared "Silence!" but the doctor's face remained straight. Then the fat man had to hop round the room on one leg; he looked very funny, but he didn't seem to appreciate it; then he hopped back to his place, and had to bend down and touch his toes with his fingers, which made him grunt.

My turn soon came. I went and stood on that piece of carpet, and it wasn't many seconds before I felt my legs begin to scorch, but I was a hero and I wasn't going to complain. Then the doctor said, "Come further from the gas, you fool," and I noticed a distinct smell of burnt hair. He treated me much the same as the fat man; I had to hold my head up and back, and hold my arms out straight, while he fooled round my ribs and dug his knuckles into my flesh, and measured me all over; then I had to hop round, and I put my heel on a discarded pen-nib, which that fool of an orderly had thrown down. Of course, I lost my balance, and had to start again. Then the doctor asked me if I had ever had any illness, and when I started to tell him he stopped me half-way through the list, and told me I ought to keep my teeth cleaner. Another man had come in by now, and I knew that he was looking me over with interest. I felt it was scandalous to let another man in before I was finished with; it made me blush.

Then the doctor put his ear to my chest and told me to breathe deep and long. I did, and nearly choked when he tweaked my fifth rib.

After he had opened me, and looked at as much of my inside as he could see between my teeth, he gave a grunt and told me I'd do. He didn't tell me how I'd do. So I am no wiser now than I was before.

I went downstairs again, and re-dressed. I found a chap storming round because someone had stolen his coat, so, without him noticing, I hung up the one I had taken. It might have been the one he was looking for. In a little time his language calmed down, so I suppose he found it.

Then I had to go upstairs to pass the eyesight test.

I don't mind confessing right here that, as far as my eyesight goes, I bilked the British Government.

They pin a card up on the wall; this card has a row of printed letters, starting with a letter some six inches high and grading down to a small letter of a depth of about a quarter of an inch; they place you a measured distance from this card, and tell you to place your left hand over your left eye, and to read the smallest letter you can see distinctly. Now, I am shortsighted, and while the others were being tested, I tried first with one eye and then the other, and I found I could not read much further than the middle-sized letters with one eye; but I could see them all pretty well with both; so I learnt the letters off by heart, and when my time came I knew what they all were—in fact, I could have passed with both eyes shut.

I did not think much of the eyesight test. They disqualified one man; he was wearing glasses, and they made him take them off; when he said he could not see anything without them, they let him put them on; but even then he could not tell them the first letter. He said it was an "F" when it was an "O." He seemed hurt when they told him he was no good.

After that, we were told to "fall in" to be sworn in; I didn't know what "fall in" meant, but I got mixed up along with the others, and I presently found myself the centre of a row of some thirty fellows; we were then marched upstairs into a bare-looking room containing a fire and roll-top desk; behind the desk was a man, an ordinary man—I learnt after that he was the adjutant, but he looked quite an ordinary man—he didn't even swear.

They gave us a Bible each. I tried to look solemn, and I noticed that the others were trying to do the same, and the effect was most interesting.

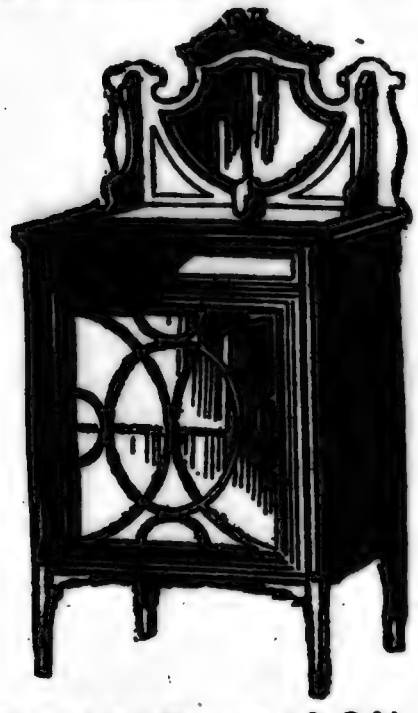
Then the man at the desk made a little speech, and tried to impress us with the solemn nature of the occasion. I don't know how he succeeded with the others, but I felt that I was about to suffer capital punishment. I fancy some of the others felt the same—they twiddled the Bibles about and avoided each other's eyes. The chap on my right had a most saintly expression on his face, but just then I caught his eye, and had to turn mine hastily away. We repeated the oath after the man at the desk, and then we kissed the Book. I kissed my thumb, it was the cleaner of the two. Then we filed out of the room, a most subdued company. The descent down the stairs cheered us up somewhat. One of the men slipped and slid down to the bottom.

I finished up by being measured by the tailors; after my other experiences this proved tame—it was only enlivened by the personal remarks of the other fellows standing round in a circle.

Altogether it was a most interesting evening, one of many more to follow—but of those anon.

Once she's here we'll never sunder—MRS. BULL'S "Hulli secunda."

The articles shown on this page have been selected at random from our Stock, but they will give an idea of the value to be obtained at the Midland Furnishing Co



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THE PRO.'S PROGRESS.

A FOOTBALL FANCY.

By Richard Morton.

Sandy Macnab was born at Dullton. In his youth he neglected his books and gave his whole soul to kicking the bouncing ball on the field of high endeavour—and much mud. He quickly won a place in the school eleven, and his masters forgave him for being so backward at his letters because he was so good a forward when at play. He could not parse a simple sentence, but he could get goals.

When he left school and went to the factory, he joined the Dullton Wanderers, playing as an amateur. But there was generally a half-sovereign in the toe of his football boots on Saturday. Goodness knows how it got there, but Sandy played all the better for it. He was not the only amateur like that.

They did not work him hard at the factory, and he could get all the time off that he wanted, for practice and training; but his wages were only fifteen shillings a week. Even when ten shillings weekly, his wage as an amateur, was added to the other amount, the total was not staggering. Sandy yearned for more.

He was offered a salary of two pounds to become a full-blown professional, by joining the Thistletonians. He accepted, and won much renown while with this famous Scottish club. It was during his second season that he was picked to represent Scotland against England, and he carved his way to glory by kicking the only goal of the match.

His prowess attracted the notice of an English manager, and overtures were made to him on behalf of the Yorkchester Rovers. When he was offered the maximum wage of four pounds a week, it did not take the astute Sandy long to make up his mind. He was on it like a bird. Being full of go, he was a great success in the North, and Yorkchester was proud of him; "one of our own lads," he was dubbed, and there were many who declared that Sandy was a native of their city. Followers of the game may remember that Sandy played for the North against the South quite early in his career, but he was not considered very effective. As a matter of fact, though he was receiving the full salary allowed by the laws of the Football Association, he was just then pressing for a little more. Not getting it, his play, strangely enough, began to deteriorate.

In these circumstances, it is not surprising to find that his club transferred him, at a substantial figure, to the Mile-End Wasters, and Sandy at once regained his best form. His wage was still nominally the same, for to pay more would have been illegal, and such a thing is not done in the football world. Certainly not. But Sandy used to wink the other eye when innocent people asked him why he changed clubs.

He was so much at home with the London team that admirers referred to him as an East-End lad, and very knowing persons could point out the house he was born in, hard by Aldgate.

Sandy made a big hit when he played for the South against the North, and was mainly responsible for a very welcome victory. It was in consequence of this success that our hero was chosen by the Selection Committee to represent England against Scotland in the International game in the following spring.

At the close of the season discontent once more showed itself, and Sandy begged to be transferred to Brimmington. A big fee was paid for the transfer, and, of course, Sandy was not allowed to receive anything. Yet his banking account seemed appreciably healthier just about this period. Brimmington won the Cup this season, and Sandy scored one of the goals. All the local papers printed his portrait, and proudly referred to him as "A Brimmington Boy for Brimmington!" Patrons of the game who were well posted in its history said that Sandy was born quite close to the Exchange. And he was quite the hero of the Midland city—until he went to the Lancashire Lurchers.

It was never made public why the hero of a hundred goals took up his quarters in Manchester, but some persons said it was because he would be better off there. How could that be, when he was already receiving the maximum legal wage? Of such are the mysteries of "footer."

Just as Sandy began to be known as "the Lancashire Lad," he suddenly went across the Irish Channel and joined the Dublin Wonders. He is expected to play for Ireland against Scotland and England—that is, if he does not accept an offer to go out to South Africa. He has been offered fine terms, and he may next be found representing South Africa against the entire United Kingdom.

Shall we follow? There's the crux. Lead on, Mary!

"Fiat Lux."

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.—CXII.

THE FATHER OF FOUR LITTLE CHILDREN WANTS WORK.

We have received the following appeal and have verified the statements. It is a most deserving case, and if any of our readers could help the writer to some sort of work we will gladly put them in touch with him:—

> I see by your "Human Documents" that there may be a chance for my husband. He is 35 years of age, and we have four little children. He has been out of work for a year and four months, and cannot get anything. He is a horsekeeper and carman, and has 15 years and 9 months' and 2 years' character, and both gentlemen will give him the best of references. What I want to ask you is, do you think through your good paper my husband could obtain any work? He does not mind how hard he works, and what hours, so long as we can pay our rent and buy boots for the little ones. It seems so hard to sell our little home up and go into the "house" when he has got such a good character. If you could find him work I should indeed be most thankful, as we have pledged nearly everything we have got, and the winter is coming, which means no boots, coal, or rent. I may add that he is thoroughly honest, sober, and early riser.

We have received, and duly remitted, the following to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CIV.—A. J., 2s.
CV.—J. and N. D., 5s.
CVIII.—C. H., parcel received; A. J. 2s.
CIX.—F. E. D., 2s. 6d.; "Old Inhabitant," 2s.; "Harringay and Friends," 3s. 6d.; G. F. M., 5s.; A. W. N., 1s. 6d.; B. G., 2s 6d.; "Anonymous," £5.
CX.—S. J. C., 2s.; K. and G., 1s.
CXI.—"Sophia," 20s; "An Honest Freemason," 5s.; A. J., 1s. 3d.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To H.R.H. the Duc d'Orleans, Wood Norton, Evesham.

Dear Phil,—So you have made up your mind, after all, to receive the Portuguese exiles. You do not seem to have been in a great hurry to thrust your hospitality upon them. Perhaps this was in part out of consideration for their comfort. No doubt you remembered that the privilege of being your guests carries with it a certain amount of obloquy in this country. Although the late King was forgiving enough to inform you that the doors of England were re-opened to you, I have not yet altogether forgotten that indiscreet letter which you wrote to M. Willette. In spite of what foreigners say, I can take a joke as well as anybody, even when it is at my own expense. But, unlike you, I consider it a part of elementary manners, to say nothing of chivalry, to refrain from insulting ladies. Willette, of course, is a very clever caricaturist, and there would be no objection to your expressing admiration of his art, but when you went out of your way to congratulate him upon his vile insults to Queen Victoria, you placed yourself once and for all outside the pale. And there, as far as I am concerned, you will always remain. Your family has always been conspicuous as parasites, weather-cocks, cowardly Opportunists; and you are an admirable exponent of its traditions. Pray accept this assurance of my distinguished consideration. John Bull.

To Hilaire Belloc, Esq., M.P.

My Dear Hilaire,—I have always been an admirer of your wit, your versatility, your personality. I am even vain enough to regard you as a prospective member of my Business Government. Why, oh why, do you rush into print to traduce the memory of Ferrer? I know that you are a very ardent Catholic, but you might have taken the trouble to get up your case a little more carefully. You said, for instance, that Ferrer had deserted his wife and three children. As a matter of fact, it was the wife who deserted him, after trying to shoot him, and his daughters cherish the profoundest regard for his memory. Then you accuse him of embezzling the money which Mme. Meunier left to pay for Masses for the repose of her soul, but you do not condescend to explain how it was possible for him to get hold of that small sum, in view of the fact that her executor was a strong Clerical and a bitter enemy of Ferrer. As for your account of Ferrer's trial and execution, the only polite way in which I can qualify it is by calling it a mass of inexactitudes. The whole history has been so minutely and carefully reported that I cannot find you any excuse, for a man of your stamp should not rely upon the calumnies of prejudiced persons. Come, come, my dear Belloc—you are great enough to be fair to an enemy—even though he be an Agnostic. John Bull.

To Captain John Montague Bennett-Stanford, Territorial Transport Officer, Hatch House, Tisbury.

Territorial Terror,—As I do not hear of any impending prosecution against you, I conclude that your case is no longer *sub judice*. So perhaps I may be allowed to tell you a little of what I think of you. On your own showing, you ordered a landlord to shut up his public-house, you lassoed him with the thong of your whip, you knocked mugs out of unoffending hands, hit bystanders over the head, and kicked them into the road; you called for a sword with which to chastise the populace, and you amused yourself by puncturing bicycles. In fact, you behaved very like a Malay does when he runs amok after a sunstroke.

Then you had the assurance to summon as many of your victims as you could find, on the ridiculous charge of contravening the Military Manœuvres Act, and you informed the Court that you considered yourself quite justified in all your violent actions. Evidently you regard all civilians with the utmost contempt and consider that they should be dragooned, beaten, insulted by Territorial officers on the least sign of any hesitation about implicit passive obedience. I have heard of German officers strutting about the streets and pushing ladies into the gutter, and drawing their swords upon civilians who had the pluck to protest. But in that case the offenders were real soldiers, brought up to exaggerated ideas of the deference due to their cloth, and even they never went to the wild extremes which you, in your brief authority as a play-acting soldier, deem a matter of course.

My first impulse was to be very angry with you, but on reflection I am inclined to think you are a useful helot, a living object-lesson. Now we know exactly what to expect in time of peace from militarism and conscription. Of the two alternatives, I rather think I should prefer a German invasion. The officers of a conquering Kaiser could scarcely behave more offensively than a Territorial terrorist, such as you. John Bull.

To Captain Inskip, J.P., and Mr. W. S. Spear, J.P., Police-court, Plymouth.

Gentlemen,—I am informed of the punishment, at once violent and excessive, which you have inflicted upon a Plymouth servant girl charged on a warrant with deserting her illegitimate child "whereby she became chargeable to the Guardians." I am not concerned with the morals of this young woman Nankivell. For all I know she may be one of thousands who, orphaned and friendless in the world, have sinned in weakness and paid in sorrow. What were the facts before you? She had put the child in charge of a woman while she looked for work in the town. She applied to the Labour Exchange; the officials sent her to a hotel in Penzance, where she found employment. From there she wrote promising the woman she would pay 5s. a week for the child. She remained only a month, however. Out of her month's wages she had to refund her fare from Plymouth to Penzance, and having to seek another situation and keep herself meanwhile, she was unable to send money to the woman in charge of her child, as she had promised. She made her way to Paignton, where she found a situation in another hotel. There she burned her arm, and was unable to do any more work. In the interval, the Plymouth woman, tired of keeping the child, or, to be verbally accurate, too poor to keep it for nothing, had taken her charge to the workhouse, where for a week or two the Guardians became responsible for the cost of its maintenance. As soon as they discovered the girl-mother was at Paignton, they obtained a warrant, and her arrest by the Paignton police effectually destroyed her prospects of obtaining further work.

From first to last, gentlemen, there was not a scintilla of evidence that she had deserted the child in any wilful sense. On the contrary, it was as clear as noonday that she had been the victim of misfortune, and that she had done all a destitute mother could do to shoulder the burden of her "sin." If you had been justices of justice—if you had been men to be moved by a sense of compassion or sympathy with this girl-mother in her lonely fight against a compelling want which might have drawn her down into the vortex of a deeper and deeper shame—you would have seen your duty clear. The way you did see it was to send her to gaol for a month's hard labour. That was your justice; that was your humanity; that was your pity, gentlemen. Take what satisfaction for the moral crime of it you may. Know this, however. Your offence is greater than hers. You have struck down a defenceless woman in her extremity. That I call the act of cowards and worse—let others think of it as they will. I shall ask *Mrs. Bull* to tell us what *she* thinks.

John Bull.

To Monsieur Aristide Briand, Prime Minister of France.

Monsieur,—You are really to be congratulated, not only on having suppressed the strike, but on having shown that Ministers of the Republic are not the wooden, stupid, helpless slugs usually represented by caricaturists and music-hall singers. I had been thinking that your bureaucracy existed only on sufferance, because there was nothing capable of taking its place. But you have now proved that the Third Republic can act with promptitude and force. The only danger is that success may lead you to become autocratic. John Bull.

Prime Minister, London.

Congratulations on adding Kitchener to Defence Committee. This should make things warm. Bull.

"Mrs. Bull," Everywhere.

Good thing I'm not jealous! Have seen early copy of your paper. Geewhiz! Bull.

How her worshippers exult!—Prosper Mary! "Deus vult."

A VITAL CONSULTATION.

DR. ASQUITH (musingly): "There may be life left in him, but I'm doubtful."
DR. BALFOUR: "Suppose we try artificial restoration?"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

General Improvement, Rubbers Recovering — French Strike Collapse Restores Paris Activity—Home Rails Improve—Rise in American Rails, Steel and Coppers—South African Mines Advancing.

Rubber and rubber shares had reacted again on the continued abstention of American buyers, but if the remarkable upward movement in American Rails, Copper and Steel should prove lasting, there will be such a fresh outburst of optimism in the States, that the manufacturers will have to abandon their "hand-to-mouth" policy, as motor cars will be booming again, and, in fact, Rubbers are already rallying. It is really remarkable how the Wall Street magnates are putting prices up in disregard of the coming decisions of the Supreme Court concerning the Trusts and of Mr. Roosevelt's hostile campaign. But they have one thing in their favour, viz., a considerable improvement in the grain crop reports. Money will possibly stiffen in view of the very large gold requirements of Egypt, but the Bank of England should henceforth get the bulk of the Cape gold and at least £700,000 is now afloat from Rio. A great point gained is the collapse of the French railway strike. Hence the Paris bourse has become cheerful, and as the City of Paris loan is a great success we shall see more speculation initiated on the other side of the Channel. The Southern Passenger stocks are benefiting by the end of the French strike, and Home Rails generally should brace up now that the labour troubles in this country are also giving over. Mexican Rails are improving again, as I said they would. Kaffir and Rhodesian Mines are distinctly better, partly on inside support, partly also on French buying. The latter may assume large proportions. Copper and Copper Mines should also be prominent in the near future. *Canadian Pacifics* have advanced to 202½, a movement which will not take readers of John Bull by surprise, and Canadian securities generally are strong. Oil shares are as yet undecided, but this is a market of the future, and there are indications that the oil war has nearly run its course.

Great Eastern Dividend Prospects.

Speculators and operators have of late shown a great partiality for Great Eastern Railway stock, in view of the very encouraging dividend outlook. Not only is the company benefiting considerably from the working agreement with the Great Northern and Great Central Railways, but traffics on the line itself have of late pulled up in a remarkable manner. This is largely due to the more energetic efforts of the management to recover the suburban passenger traffic, lost to the electric tramways and motor omnibuses, by a wholesale reduction of fares, and to increased facilities in other directions. The result has fully justified expectations, and one of these days, no doubt, the success of the electrification of the Brighton Company's London line may encourage this company to undertake a similar experiment. Meantime, the company has to its credit a gross traffic increase of £51,000, and at this rate there should be an aggregate increase for the whole half-year of at least £100,000, while it takes £76,000 to pay one per cent. per annum dividend. A distribution at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the current half-year is, therefore, on the cards, which, with that paid at the rate of 1¾ per cent. per annum for the first half of 1910, would make a total of 3⅝ per cent. for the year. The present quotation is 68½, and if the dividend in question is forthcoming, the yield would be something over 5 per cent. per annum. The last time that 3⅝ per cent. dividend was paid was for 1906, in which year the quotation moved between 91⅛ and 79½, so that there is plenty of room for a substantial improvement upon the present price.

A Cheap Uruguay Railway Stock—The Rise Foreshadowed in "John Bull."

Under the heading, "A Cheap Uruguay Railway Stock," I directed attention, on the 8th inst., to the Uruguay Northern Seven per Cent. Preferred stock (cumulative), then standing at 28, which received, on December 1st, 1909, a dividend of 1 per cent. for the year. I foreshadowed large dividends on this stock, as the line has been doing much better. The price has now risen to 32, and it is understood that the Company will pay this year 2 per cent. Those of my readers who have taken my advice, therefore, have a nice profit to take. But I should think that the price will rise further, especially if, as appears probable, the 2 per cent. distribution is combined with a substantial carry forward. When last a dividend of 2 per cent. was paid the price was 40. I do not say that the quotation will reach that level, but there are, obviously, great possibilities even for a "lock-up," as large arrears will, sooner or later, have to be dealt with. The Perpetual Three-and-a-Half per Cent. Debenture stock, the full interest on which is being paid, has, so far, only hardened to 63, but it is distinctly cheap at that. Uruguay is on the rising wave now, and will evidently follow Argentina on the road to prosperity.

Argentine Rails—What to Buy and What to Leave Alone.

The four leading Argentine Railway Companies are the Buenos Ayres Great Southern (Ordinary stock quoted at 123½), Buenos Ayres Western (Ordinary at 123), Buenos Ayres and Pacific (Ordinary at 93), and Central Argentine (Ordinary at 107½). The two first named are in an excellent position, and have just declared final dividends, making up the dividend on the Ordinary to 7 per cent. The Central Argentine is paying 6 per cent. and is distinctly progressive, and should raise its dividend in the next few years. The Buenos Ayres and Pacific, owing to the very large new capital outlay on huge extensions, has to reduce dividends materially, and, although, the market goes for the dividend being made up to 4 per cent. by the declaration now due, it cannot be done without again encroaching heavily upon the reserve fund. I, therefore, do not anticipate a higher rate than 3½ per cent. for the year, and I should not be surprised to see the stock lower.

A Relapse in Rubbers and a Recovery—The Course of the Raw Product the Chief Controlling Factor.

The Rubber share market has been moving very irregularly of late, and a sharp decline has been followed by a partial rally. The Bears, of course, are making desperate efforts to keep their hold on the market, but after they had depressed fine Para to 5s. 10d., it has recovered to 6s. 2d. In the meantime the Plantation sales on Tuesday and Wednesday will call the tune.

Amongst the latest dividends are Highlands and Lowlands second interim of 10 per cent., and Sungei Kapar, an interim dividend of 25 per cent. It will appear from the following table that prices are now mid-way between the highest and lowest recently touched, but a fresh advance is being predicted:—

	Share.	Highest 1910.	Lowest Oct. 4.	Price Oct. 17.
Anglo-Malay	2/-	39/-	21/3	24/3xd
Batu Caves	£1	19	13⅜	15
Cons. Malay	2/-	35/6d.	21/-	25/6
Damansara	£1	10½	6½	7⅝
Golconda	£1	9⅜	4⅜	5⅜
Golden Hopes	£1	10 3-32	5	5xd.
Highlands	£1	10	4⅜	5¼xd
Labu	2/-	23/-	12/-	16/-
Lanadron	£1	10	4⅜	4
Linggi	2/-	70/9d.	39/9	45/6
London Asiatic	2/-	19/-	10/3d.	12/6xd
Pataling	2/-	81/3d.	2⅜	3
Seafield	£1	10	6	6⅜
Selangor	2/-	93/-	2⅜	3
Sungei Kapar	2/-	11⅜	12/-	14/9
Vallambrosa	2/-	—	33/9	41/-

If any of my readers wish to go in for a low-priced share, they might select *David Young Rubber Estates*, about which I gave particulars in last week's issue. This is one of the earliest large producers amongst the cheap shares, and since I wrote on them last week, when they were quoted 2s. 7½d., they have advanced to 2s. 10½d. *Rubber Exploration* have also advanced from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d for the 2s. shares, quite a large demand having arisen for the same, chiefly no doubt owing to their large interest in the *David Young Rubber Estates*, which is the premier Company of British Guiana. In the case of such low-priced shares, there is little risk, and the promise of a good profit. Receipts at Para for the month of October are so far 1,280 tons, while for the whole month of October last year, the total was 3,270 tons, and for October, 1908, 3,460 tons. Receipts at Para from July 1st to October 13th, 1910, this being the first part of the new season, were 7,460 tons, and thus compare favourably with the figures from July 1st, 1909, to end of October, 1909, of 8,560, and from July 1st, 1908, to end October, 1908, of 9,020 tons.

Oil War Apparently Moderating—Shell Transports Firmer—Others Irregular—Franklin Oil Rally—Kern Rivers Fluctuate—Maikop News More Encouraging than the Market — Oil Development Trust Strong.

The oil war is still proceeding, but to judge from the recovery in Shell Transports, which rose to 85s. and are still quoted 83s. 6d., the Standard Oil Trust people are no longer so determined to fight *à outrance* and are beginning to count the cost of cutting prices. No doubt they will come

to some arrangement in the near future. In the meantime, some other companies are coming into favour, such as some of the Burmahs, and Franklin Oil shares have recovered to 13-16 on good buying and favourable advices concerning the opening of additional wells. *Oil Development Trusts*, too, are up at 3s., and look promising at that. It is, however, difficult to understand why the *Maikop* group have fallen back again, unless it be impatience on the part of shareholders to see their companies in full producing order. The Standard Oil Trust scare, at all events, should be exploded as far as Russian Oil companies are concerned, as the whole position has been so clearly explained. Again, the Black Sea Oil fields are already producing on a larger scale, and, in addition to the *Maikop Spies* and *Maikop Producers*, which have struck oil, the London and Maikop Oil Corporation is, according to a recent cable on the point of doing so. The following table shows recent accounts and present prices of leading representative shares :—

	Share.	Amount Paid.	Highest 1910.	Price, Oct. 6.	Price, Oct. 17.
Anglo-Maikop	£1	15/-	1 29-32 pm.	5-16 pm.	7-16pm.
Black Sea Pref.	£1	£1	2⅛	15-16	1⅛
London and Maikop Corp.	£1	4/-	⅜ pm.	par.	par.
Maikop Gen. Trust	£1	£1	2⅛	1 1-16	13/6
Maikop Midland	£1	10/-	⅛ pm.	⅜ dis.	⅜ dis.
Do. Pipe-Line	£1	15/-	⅛ pm.	13-16	13/6
Do. Premier	£1	£1	1⅛ pm.	13-16	1
Do. Spies	10/-	10/-	25/-	13/-	13/9
Do. Valley Pref.	£1	15/-	11/10½ pm.	5-16 dis.	3-16 dis.
Anglo-Roumanian Pet.	£1	£1	1⅛	⅜	15-16
Baku (New)	10/-	7/-	8/9	2/6	3/6
Burmah	£1	£1	6⅛	3⅛	3 15-16
California Oilfields	£1	£1	6 3-16	4⅛	5⅛
Commonwealth Pref. Ord.	£1	£1	19/-	9-16	11-16
Eastern Pet.	£1	£1	2⅛	1 11-16	1⅛
Egyptian Oil Trust "A"	£1	£1	5⅛	4⅛	5⅛
Franklin Oil	$5	$5	1 9-16	⅜	1 13-16
Gen. Oil and Fin.	£1	10/-	8/3 pm.	1-16 dis.	par.
G. M. Oilfields	£1	£1	93/9	1⅛	2
Kern River	£1	£1	2/6 pm.	13/9	14/-
Lobitos	£1	£1	40/6	30/-	29/6
Mexican Eagle	20/6	20/6	⅛ pm.	19/6	20/6
Newfoundland Oilfields	£1	£1	1⅛	11-16	⅜
Oil Dev. Trust	2/-	2/-	3/-	2/9	3/-
Pacific Oilfields	£1	£1	33/1⅛	⅜	13-16
Schibaieff Pets.	£1	£1	3/6	9d.	1/-
Shell Transports	£1	£1	106/-	78/-	83/6
Spies Petroleum	10/-	10/-	36/-	22/3	24/3
Red Sea Oilfields	£1	£1	—	11⅛	2

The important official announcement is now made from St. Petersburg that the ill-judged proposal of the Minister of Commerce to prevent foreigners from owning oil-producing land in the Maikop district has fallen through, partly owing to the strong opposition of the majority of the members of the Russian cabinet. General Oil and Finance shares are firm at par, and will, doubtless, rise to a higher level on the issue of the first of the important subsidiaries about to be floated. Realisations are responsible for a partial relapse in *Egyptian "A"* and *Red Sea* after the recent rise. *Kern Rivers* have fluctuated a good deal, and have finally rallied on an official explanation of the causes of the diminished production. Newfoundlands, however, have turned flat, and New Zealand Oilfields are lower.

KAFFIRS RALLYING—RHODESIANS ADVANCE—THE BANTJES AND NEW KLEINFONTEIN INVESTIGATIONS.

A distinctly firmer tone has prevailed in the Kaffir Circus, partly on strong indications that the great South African houses are giving support to this market, thus showing that they believe in an early and steady rise. A favourable impression was, moreover, created by the readiness with which the London Committee of the Bantjes Company at once cabled the complaint of the dealers on the Stock Exchange concerning the apparent leakage of information to Johannesburg. An answer has been received from the head office, stating that no information was given locally before London, but in future no doubt special precautions will be taken. *Bantjes* have now recovered to 2⅛, and *New Kleinfontein* to 2 5-32, although the reply cabled concerning the latter is rather lame. I should thing that this is a good time to buy some of the better-class South African mines which will become early producers, for instance *Randfontein Central*, now quoted 2 3-16, *Randfontein South* 2⅛, *City Deep* at 4 3-8. The latter have also rallied from the effect of foolish rumours. Then there is *Cinderella Consolidated* at 2 1-32, *Brakpan* at 2 27-32, and remarkably cheap *Daggafontein Gold* at 11-16. *Rhodesians* are also improving, under the lead of *Rhodesia Exploration*, and are firmer at 2 15-16, at which they are dealt in for the special settlement. I do not suppose that we shall have a very sharp rise in these until somewhere near Nov. 10th, when the new issue has been made to the shareholders, and the "rights" have been fixed. The following table will show that a substantial improvement has taken place in Rhodesians since the recent relapse occurred, and it may fairly be expected that this movement will continue :—

	Highest, 1910.	Price, Oct. 3.	Price, Oct. 17.
Shamva Mines	—	4	4 7-16
Spamva Options	—	1⅛	1 7-16
Amal. Prop. of Rhod. (5/-)	13/6	7/9	8/6
Antelope	37/6	1⅛	1 9-16
Bucks Reef	3 19-32	2 13-16	2⅞
Chartered	2 1-16	1⅛	1⅛
Chicago Gaika	32/6	12/-	12/6
Eldorado Banket	4 3-16	2 15-16	31-16
Enterprise	78/9	2⅛	2⅛
Exp. Land and Mins.	13/6	6/9	7/3
Gaika Gold	49/-	1 1-16	1 3-16
Giant Mines	5 7-16	4	4⅛
Globe and Phœnix (5/-)	53/9	2⅛	2 13-6
New Found Out	37/6	1⅛	1 5-16
Resende	3 1-16	2 5-16	2⅛
Rhod. Cons. (10/-)	—	6/3	6/6
Rhod. Exp.	4⅛	2 11-16	2 15-16
Selukwe (5/-)	25/7½	8/-	10/3
Selukwe Columbia	77/6	3⅛	3⅛
Surprise	75/-	1 3-16	1 5-16
Tanganyika Con.	7⅛	6⅛	6⅛
Willoughby Cons. (10/-)	24/4½	16/-	18/6
Zambesia Exp.	2 5-16	1 11-16	1⅞
Rhodesia G.M. & Inv.	—	1⅛	2 11-16
Lonely Reefs	—	2 9-16	3
Lond. and Rhod. Mng.	—	1 11-16	1 5-16
Hay Gold Mine	—	1⅛	1⅛
Mapeke (10/-)	—	12/-	13/6

In the meantime, very favourable developments are reported from various parts. *Lonely Reef* have advices of a very rich strike, going up to 6¾ ozs. per ton, and it is not surprising that these should have advanced to 2 15-16. This is evidently going to be one of the "show mines" of Rhodesia. Favourable results are also reported from the *Mapeke Mines*, which have improved to 13s. 6d., and the *Hay Mines* are also making satisfactory progress, and have improved to 1⅛, at which they stood before the recent relapse in Rhodesians. With reference to the Hay Mine, the London and Rhodesian Mining Company has received cables according to which prospecting has been done which is regarded as proving that the formation extends over 500 feet. Finally, it may be said that the labour prospects both in Rhodesia and on the Rand are excellent—and the result of improved efficiency of recently recruited labour, the electrification of plants, and the increase in the crushing per stamp, are certain to cause a very considerable increase in the gold output next year.

AMALGAMATED CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES, LTD.

If all the Cinematograph Theatres were doing as well as the above-mentioned company, their shareholders would no doubt be well satisfied. At last week's statutory meeting, Mr. Montagu A. Pyke, the managing director, was already able to announce an interim dividend of 5 per cent. He also stated that they had actually made a profit since May 1st of £9,500 from the five theatres, while two additional new theatres, at Balham and at Croydon, would be open in a few weeks, and, "judging from the extremely satisfactory conditions prevailing, he confidently anticipated that they would be able to declare dividends of at least 20 to 25 per cent. on the capital of the company during the first year of its working."

ANGLO-JAPANESE BANK.

In a recent reply to an enquiry, it seems I took a somewhat too pessimistic view of the present position of the Anglo-Japanese Bank. There is reason for stating that the position is slowly improving, and it is not improbable that some dividend will be declared for the second half of the year. If that be so, the value of the shares might be expected to rise, and, in the circumstances, it would be wisest for holders to keep them.

THE LAW GUARANTEE TRUST AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.

In an article in our issue of the 18th of June under the above heading, and the sub-heading "What the Shareholders should do," we introduced the name of Mr. Montague Hayden and commented upon the result of his appointment as manager of certain hotels in which the Society had an interest. In our issue of 13th August, under the head "Law Guarantee Trust and Mr. Hayden," we qualified the statement originally made by saying that Mr. Hayden had satisfied us that under his management "the trading loss at the Tudor Hotel was very materially decreased." This statement was made upon figures supplied to us at the instance of Mr. Hayden, but these figures, as we now learn, were not complete, and we are satisfied that the original statement that under Mr. Hayden's management the Tudor Hotel passed from a profitable concern into a bankrupt one was without warrant, and, further, that there was no foundation for the statement originally made, so far as Mr. Hayden was concerned, with respect to the Tudor Hotel and the Royal Hotel, Ventnor, or any other hotels placed under Mr. Hayden's management. We therefore unreservedly withdraw those statements.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are only made in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, for transacting business, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

FARROW'S BANK.—OLD READER (Liverpool).—Quite safe for the deposit you mention.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—A. S. (Bath).—Do not deal with the firm in question. LANKY.—Outside brokers of a very dubious type; have nothing whatever to do with them. OUTLOOK.—You have a penchant for dealing with outsiders which you should curb at once. Neither of the firms in question are any more than bucket-shops, and if you have already entrusted your money to them it is odds on your never seeing the colour of it again. In future, better not speculate at all if you do not do so through a reliable firm. PUZZLED.—No, I should not advise you to go into underwriting with the firm in question. BEULAH.—Outsiders, and I do not advise you to transact any business with them. ALPHA (Wimborne).—You are quite right; this offer is too good to be true. When considering such offers on the part of outside brokers, remember *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.*

VARIOUS.—FORM IV.—(1) No; you might as well throw your money into the sea. (2) A fair holding of the kind, but not much margin for capital appreciation. (3) You have a profit of over £1 per share, and no one was ever ruined by taking the same. W. W.—(1) Considering the heavy fall in the Rubber share market, these have been very well held, and I cannot advise you to sell now. (2) Sell, and reinvest in Maikop issues. (3) I am not partial to these Westralian shares, which have proved a great disappointment so far.

£1,000 INVESTMENT.—FOGS.—Altogether too much; it would be far preferable to invest the money in sound securities, even if you have to be satisfied with a small return. Nobody knows what may happen during this period.

SMALL INVESTMENT.—NOTSAB.—Always remember that the higher the return the greater the risk. Bearing this in mind, your own intelligence will guide you as to the rest. I always advise keeping to sound securities in the matter of investments. READER.—Better put the money in the P.O. Savings Bank, which gives you a somewhat smaller interest, but assures absolute safety. That is, after all, the chief consideration, especially in your position. CONSTANT READER (Devonport).—I do not advise the proposed transfer. The higher the interest, the greater the risk. Why not place the money into a sound, gilt-edged security—Irish Land stock, for instance? You can do this through the P.O. Savings Bank for a small charge. T. R. M.—Only for very small amounts. Investment in sound securities is preferable, for obvious reasons.

TWO SECURITIES.—E. W. F.—(1) A fair Industrial holding, but the market in the shares is really in Manchester. (2) Yes; the prospect of the uncalled capital being called up is exceedingly remote.

AMERICANS.—ALPHA.—In the first place, these people, being outsiders, are not bound by the rules of the Stock Exchange, but formulate their own conditions. In the second place, the first prices of Americans, given on the tape, are the New York *parity* prices, and not the dealing prices here. These, as a rule, open higher than parity, unless some unfavourable development has occurred. I must admit that the people, in booking the contract at 124½, acted within their rights. The two quotations given are the buying and the selling prices—that is, you buy at the higher figure and sell at the lower.

RUBBERS.—CANTAB.—The British North Borneo Company is prospering, and a purchase of the shares, especially on any temporary reaction, should yield good results eventually. (2) The following selection should suit you: London Asiatic, United Sumatra, David Young, and Rubber Explorations. J. E. K.—It will not be so easy to buy Rubber shares at the lowest, and sell them at once at a higher price. The only way will be for you to buy the shares, and pay for them, and then wait for the chance of selling them again. You must, of course, deal through a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange.

OILS.—O. I. L.—I sympathise with you, but do not think you will be able to recover. In any case, beware of the threepence-per-share people, or you might let yourself in for an unknown amount of law costs.

PREMIUM BONDS.—W. S.—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. J. A. C.—(1) No; you should not deal with these people. They generally charge far above the market value, and mix with their combinations undesirable bonds. (2) Not all. (3, 4 and 5) I send you the name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of these bonds, and can be trusted to get you all the information you require. ANXIOUS (Brighton).—(1) These people generally charge a great deal more than market price, and if you want to deal in such things you had better employ someone else. (2) Naturally, if you pay too much. (3) No, but ask the question from the firm whose name I am sending you.

RHODESIAN COPPER.—JOINT STOCK.—Rhodesians are now improving, and the shares in question are also bracing up. Hold for a further recovery.

ELDER, DEMPSTER PREFS.—SHIPPING.—(1) A fair investment in the shipping division, but not absolutely "safe." (2) I think the underwriters had to take a substantial proportion. (3) The shares are quoted in the Stock Exchange Official List, and the present price is ⅞.

SAFE INVESTMENTS.—H. T. (Chingford).—No. 5 in the first place, and then No. 4.

MARKET PRICE.—G. L.—There is no Stock Exchange quotation for these shares, and they are not readily dealt in. No doubt they will be at some future time.

HAMBURG AND ROYAL HUNGARIAN LOTTERIES.—MENAI.—It is quite impossible to tell you whether the intermediaries for these various lotteries are honest or not. They are mostly small agents, and I cannot assist you in the matter, as lotteries are illegal in this country.

STEVEDORE.—OLAF.—It is too small a business to be floated into a limited liability company. At all events, in the City, people would not go into this. You should advertise your requirements in, say, the *Times*.

ADVANCE ON MORTGAGE.—SPECULATOR (Peterborough).—No one would advance the full value on mortgage for the loan you speak of. Neither would the building societies mentioned.

LE ROIS.—CESTRIAN.—First of all, if you deal with such people, you have not the Stock Exchange to appeal to, as is the case when dealing with an Insider. Secondly, it is a fact that the company has gone into liquidation, and your best course is to apply to the Official Receiver.

FIVE STOCKS.—H. H.—(1) You can get over 3½ per cent. per annum on Western Australian 3½ per cent. and on Newfoundland 3½ per cent. bonds, at present prices. (2) Both are quite safe. (3) 3½ per cent Registered Stock. (4) No, unless you go into one of the Great Central Preference issues—the Perpetual 5 per cent., at 120, for instance.

TRUNK GUARANTEED.—SETAY—Trunk Guaranteed stock is safe enough to all intents and purposes. Of course, it is not of the same status as Consols, but this is compensated for by the bigger yield.

CANADIAN PACIFICS.—A. J.—Apparently not a member of the Stock Exchange. I send what you require.

CONSOLS.—W. A. B.—I see no prospect of any substantial rise in Consols for the present, and I am inclined to advise you to sell out and go into more attractive securities, such as leading Colonial Government bonds. Also see reply to "Five Stocks" above.

VIRGINIA COPPER COMPANY.—VIRGINIA.—This concern may be all that you say, but so little interest is taken in it that it is no longer even given a place in the usual books of reference, and there is no market here in the shares. If you have a predilection for copper shares, you can find plenty of opening in the leading marketable descriptions, without going into out-of-the-way shares.

AGAUNICO CO.—MERTHYR.—I strongly advise you not to buy these shares, or, in fact, to have anything whatever to do with this touting Chicago firm. There is, of course, no market for them, and never will be.

FOUR HOLDINGS.—W. E. P.—All are highly speculative Rhodesian propositions No. 1 are quoted at 5s. 3d., and No. 2 at 9s. 9d. Neither pay dividends yet, and it is highly problematical as to when they will do so, although they will doubtless go better along with the rest of the market. (3) This concern is no longer in existence, having been swallowed up by another concern. (4) These shares have dropped out of the dealings for the present, but they may come to the front again presently, and there is no option but to hold.

DEALING FOR DIFFERENCES.—DEU.—(1) If he is a member of the Glasgow Stock Exchange, he can do so. (2) I think so. (3) That depends upon the course of the law.

£200 TO INVEST.—CONSTANT READER.—No, I should not advise you to place this money, which represents apparently your savings, into the bank mentioned at high interest, which is not compatible with safety, although the bank has been in existence a considerable time. Your best plan would be to invest it in sound securities, say, in Home Rails, to yield about 4½ per cent., and, if you wish it, I can recommend you a stockbroker who will do so for you.

JICARO GOLD ESTATES.—PRUDENCE.—I do not advise you to go into this Nicaraguan concern. Not enough development has been done. The mines are mere prospects.

W. W. MINING FINANCE.—F. C. W.—There is too much of these privately introduced Rhodesian mines. The fullest particulars ought to be published, and especially the names of the directors. To introduce £1 shares at once at 2½ does not, moreover, give the public a chance.

ANXIOUS (Bombay).—Your best plan would be to consult the firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of such bonds. I send you their address by post.

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.—F. G.—These Louisvilles were purchased at 148, and, according to instructions, closed on September 20th at 145½. You should, therefore, have received £1, which has doubtless by this time reached you. J. C.—The margin upon the Southern Pacifics and Norfolks being exhausted, they were, of course, closed; with the Eries you were more fortunate, as they reached the limit of profit—£4. The second week's deal with this amount was in Milwaukees and Unions; the former closed at a loss, the latter again at the maximum profit. Canadas and Ontarios were selected for the third week's operations, but, there being a setback, the margin was exhausted and the account closed. You have certainly had a run for your money!

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 67, Long Acre, W.C.

GENERAL MUTUAL INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE CO.—TOMASO (Southampton).—We can only suggest that you put the matter into the hands of a solicitor. There can be no doubt, if the facts are as you state them, that you have a claim. PERPLEXED (Chatham).—See previous answer. We have not a favourable opinion of the concern.

STATUS OF COMPANY.—GAMA (Manchester).—Yes, the company is conducting its business as usual, but its position leaves a good deal to be desired. Why not write to the Secretary as to the general meeting?

PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—QUERIUS (Dunstan-on-Tyne).—Surely you must know that the company is, financially, one of the strongest in the world. The particular policy to which you direct our attention is a somewhat attractive one. H. E. T. (Bournemouth).—If you paid the premium, and the company has accepted it, and its agent has given you a receipt, of course the policy remains valid.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—WILLIAM (Bangor).—We can only say that our view of the position is identical with yours, as expressed in your letter to us. T. J. G. (Llanelly).—The answer is in the negative.

ENDOWMENT INSURANCE.—HOSKINS (Ealing).—The Scottish Widows, or the North British and Mercantile, might serve your purpose.

SALVATION ARMY ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—N. W. (Salford).—We adhere to the reply which we gave in the issue to which you refer. You should pay no attention to what members of the Salvation Army tell you as to the points at issue.

INDUSTRIAL INDEMNITY CORPORATION.—W. F. (Abercarn).—The answer is in the negative.

THREE COMPANIES.—E. R. B. (Brighton).—All three companies are of standing and financially sound.

SUNDRY COMPANIES.—ANXIOUS (Exeter).—Of the four companies you name, we should prefer the Scottish Widows

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—J. T. T. (Crouch End).—The answer is in the affirmative.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY.—X. Y. Z. (Colyton).—The company is entitled to make its own conditions, and if you do not think them equitable, it is open to you to go elsewhere. We cannot recommend you to the other company you name. We will look into the other matters and answer your several points next week.

NATIONAL PROTECTOR INSURANCE COMPANY.—A. C. H. (Hornsey).—You have omitted to enclose the fee. When that omission is rectified, we shall have pleasure in answering your questions.

PURCHASE OF ANNUITY.—A. C. (Southend-on-Sea).—You need have no fear that the company you name will not meet any engagements you may enter into with it. It is of high standing.

BRITISH EQUITABLE INSURANCE COMPANY.—R. S. W. (Derby).—No doubt the American company offers you better terms than the one in which you are insured. But you must remember that American companies do not always carry out their promises in full. The British Equitable is not doing as well as some other insurance companies, but it is quite sound, and was established as far back as 1854.

VALIDITY OF POLICY.—E. T. (Greenwich).—We think your better way is to see the company, place the facts before them, and take their decision upon it. When you have done so, write to us again.

DUTCH INSURANCE COMPANY.—LOTISICO (Kilmainham).—The answer is in the affirmative.

"FAIR PLAY" (Manchester) left his season ticket at home, and complains that the Cheshire Lines made him pay the ordinary fare. We suppose this is the letter of the law, but if he had made himself more of a nuisance, he might have got off.

MRS. BULL a trusty guide is—None will doubt her "Bona Fides."

A Financial Revolution!

In this article it is indicated how conditions have changed, enabling the man who is not a capitalist to embark on profitable stock and share transactions without straining his resources, avoiding stamps, fees, commissions, etc. These charges are dispensed with in a method of Money-making which revolutionised Stock and Share transactions.

THE man who looks on any unsatisfactory condition of things with cold, challenging eyes is a revolutionist in thought. What has been tolerated is not necessarily good enough to continue. This applies with particular force to stock and share transactions.

In this sphere of business activity a revolution has been brought about. Once, only the man and woman of means could use or take advantage of expert knowledge, because in the first place, every transaction had to be made for a substantial amount, and in the second place, at every step there were charges to meet which sometimes made a profit impossible and very often difficult.

Now, through the National Share Exchange a vastly different condition of things obtains. The gate of convenience has been flung wide to the public. Anyone may limit his liability to a few pounds, with the convincing knowledge of being entitled all the time to unlimited profits.

That is all we can say on that point with the limited space at our disposal here. You will be informed directly of the details of this method if you fill up and send the coupon below. So far reference has been made to this method only, but the results are also revolutionary. The National Share Exchange has distributed nearly half-a-million pounds sterling **(£425,040)** among clients who have adopted this system. Compare this achievement with any other of a similar nature, and consider whether it would pay you to learn more.

Don't let this be a lost opportunity. For you have only to fill in and post the Coupon below in order to learn how, by a revolution in financial methods, a little money makes big money in a short period.

On a System the bottom basis of which is —that—

£6 CAN PRODUCE **£48**

£18 HAS MADE **£512**

£18 COULD MAKE **£1200**

TO THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE,
GREAT WINCHESTER STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "The Modern System of Money-Making," and other literature which is a clear explanation of the methods which have enabled you to pay away nearly £425,040 to clients.

J.B. 22/10/10

NAME _____
(State Rev. Mr. Mrs. Miss or Title).

ADDRESS IN FULL _____

DATE _____
(Please write distinctly).

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MODERN MEN.

VII.—THE BEAUTY MAN.

By Mary Meadows.

Were it not for his heavy moustache, his admirers would probably compare him to a Greek god. Of course, Zeus wore fungus all over his face, but no divine dandy ever omitted to shave, no hirsute face ever won a heart in the alcoves of Olympus. Yet this Beauty Man has quite a vogue with various females by reason of his heavy moustache.

They never say he is agreeable. That would be too manifest a lie. They never say he is good company, for he never made a joke in his life or understood one outside the pages of *Punch*. They never praise his learning or his conversation or his clothes or his distinction. But if you run him down they murmur reprovingly, "He is *so* good-looking."

It is true that his features are quite regular, that his shoulders are broad, and he is probably well provided with muscles. But if you want that kind of man, why not go out and buy a barber's block at once? I was going to say that he has no expression, but unfortunately he has, and I never saw one quite so sinister. His goggle eyes always give me the creeps. The eyeballs are hard and glistening, like some highly-polished pebble, and the long, curly eyelashes are effeminate enough to be utterly out of place. I believe he has trained his eyes to look inside him most of the time. He never seems conscious of what is going on all round him, but is as introspective and self-centred as the fakir of some contemplative Indian sect.

His friends make this an excuse for his utter lack of manners. Even when a lady comes into the room, it is as likely as not that he will never take the faintest notice of her presence. He rarely answers when he is spoken to. He helps himself first at meals. If his wife reminds him of his rudeness, he looks up with a start, apologises perfunctorily, and quietly goes on doing nothing.

Judging by his inattention, I should have set him down as an imbecile. But after hearing him laugh, I am more inclined to dismiss him as a really dangerous, raving lunatic. Gracious Heavens! That laugh haunts me until I am often tempted to sit up and scream in bed at dead of night. There is no merriment whatever in it, merely a long rumbling peal like a succession of thunder claps growing louder and louder as they reverberate across the welkin. When I first heard it, I was so taken aback that I could only open my mouth and stare as at some freak in the side shows of an exhibition. And the worst of it is that you never know when this laugh is coming, you never have any opportunity to prepare for it.

I remember once how one of his guests made a remark with which he disagreed. Instead of answering as any ordinary human being would have done, he simply lay back in his chair and gave vent to one of his diabolical laughs. The guest, being unaccustomed to treatment of this kind, calmly inquired what he meant, whereupon he shook himself like a sleeper awakening, suddenly grew very angry, and ordered his guest out of the house. None of his friends will admit that he is mad, but I certainly should not like to meet him alone in a dark lane, or travel in his company on a raft after a shipwreck.

For years now I have puzzled my brain by wondering whether he has ever been susceptible to tender emotions. The only sign of anything within a thousand miles of a flirtation has been his cold-blooded preference for the society of a certain female. She is very plain, very yellow, very untidy, horribly fluffy, terribly learned, and fawns more abjectly than any dog I have ever seen. But he never appears conscious of her presence, he never addresses her directly, nor does he often listen to what she says. When they go off to exhibitions together, I often wonder whether they have more to say. If so, he must be deeper than I give him credit for.

And he certainly has some of the elements of still waters about him. If he ever became jealous, it would be very dangerous to take his indifference for granted. But he is probably far too confident in his own good looks ever to condescend to anything half so modest as jealousy.

For the continuation of this series, see "Mrs. Bull" on Tuesday next.)

THE NEW BOSWELL.—XI.

Edited By W. M.

"PRO BONO PUBLICO."

"Poor young King Manuel has all *my* sympathy, at any rate," I declared.

"Sir, much good may it do him," growled Dr. Johnson. "For my part, I congratulate him upon his promotion."

"His promotion!" I exclaimed.

"Yes, sir," retorted Johnson. "His promotion to the rank of a private gentleman, with its attendant personal freedom, and opportunities for broadening the sympathies and enlarging the mind, by rubbing shoulders with all classes of humanity on equal terms."

"It is fortunate his mother, Queen Amelie, is not present to hear you utter such opinions," I said.

"Sir," returned the Doctor, "Queen Amelie, according to a recent portrait is, or was, a beautiful woman. For which reason she excites my admiration. She is also a stricken woman. Consequently she has my respectful sympathy. Inasmuch as she is brave, I honour her. But, sir, in my estimation, she lacks something of the softer qualities of womanhood, and has a false idea of the relations which should exist between a King and his people."

"Perhaps," I remarked, "the tragic loss of her husband and eldest son——"

"Sir!" shouted Johnson, "if a woman loses her husband and her eldest son through an act of popular violence, is that a reason why she should desire to expose another child to a similar fate?"

"But she is doubtless ambitious for her son, and is eager to restore to him the crown of his fathers," I replied.

"Sir," answered the Philosopher, scornfully, "don't prate to me about 'the crown of his fathers.' In these democratic days we recognise that a crown is hereditary only so long as its descent is approved by the people. We British have won our freedom—though attempts are being made just now to whittle it away in many directions. We have had three generations of irreproachable monarchs. Hence we can scarcely be expected to enter into the feelings of a people struggling for political and religious liberty, who believe that they can best attain their very reasonable desires through the instrumentality of a republic."

"But think of the horrors of revolution," I said.

"Sir," growled the Doctor, "you talk like a child. It is not yet three hundred years since our ancestors chopped off the head of Charles the First. The Portuguese, sir, provided for the safe escape of their deposed king."

"I fail to see the connection," I replied, interrogatively.

"I suspected as much," retorted Johnson. "Sir, does not it plainly show that the revolution in Portugal was not directed against the reigning house as individuals? Does not it indicate that the good, or the imagined good, of the people was the chief incentive, and that no feelings of vengeful malice against their King, who was entirely at their mercy, actuated the revolutionaries?"

"I suppose it does," I admitted, a little reluctantly. "At the same time, it must be very annoying to be ejected from one's throne without reasonable and proper notice."

"No more so, sir," replied Johnson, "than for a city clerk with a small wife and large family, and a semi-detached villa overlooking the mud-flats of the Essex coast, to be given a month's wages and the sack—if as much, indeed."

"You seem to regard the state of Kingship very lightly, I returned,

"Sir," replied Johnson, solemnly, "I think first of the good of the people. If a throne impedes the progress of a nation by giving, directly or indirectly, occasion and opportunity for political corruption and religious intolerance and persecution, I would remove it with as little compunction as I would blow the froth from a glass of beer."

"You infer that royalty have no rights," I protested.

"Nothing of the sort, sir," roared the Doctor. "But I maintain that they have duties—*duties*, sir, which come before their rights, as they do in the case of every man and woman, kings, queens or commoners. And when a king is desired by his people to abdicate, and is satisfied that they are seeking their own good as a nation, he should eschew bloodshed and intrigue, and step down gracefully from his throne, *pro bono publico*."

"You had better communicate those ideas to the German Emperor," I said, ringing the bell.

Fifty papers come and go—Mary ne'er will be "de trop."

"I wonder if Hall's Wine would do me any good?

I see it advertised a great deal, but I don't know whether there's really anything in it or not."

That was what a friend of Hall's Wine (a physician) overheard a lady say recently. And, repeating it to us, he said: "How many people there must be who miss just such an invaluable help as Hall's Wine because they will not take the initiative and order the article, or buy it themselves."

Here is Hall's Wine, known to the medical and nursing professions as the most marvellous restorative, nervine and all round tonic in existence, tried and proved for over twenty years, advertised *for the public good no less than for the proprietor's good*—and *yet* there are some people who will not trouble to buy a single bottle!

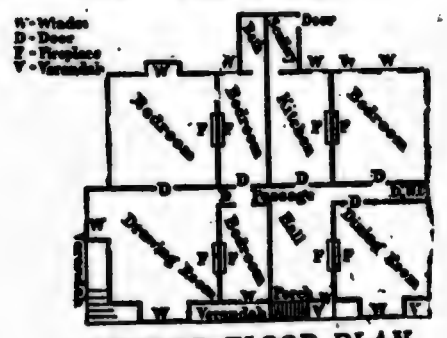
People with jangled nerves. People with impoverished blood. People who cannot sleep well. Depressed people. Worried people. People who cannot assimilate their food—on they go with their unhappiness, when merely sending to the wine merchant's or the licensed grocer's or chemist's for a bottle of Hall's Wine would bring them certain relief.

The first wineglassful of Hall's Wine shows its power. Will *you* try it? Ask for the new *extra large size* bottle of Hall's Wine, 3/6.

89 J. B., Hall's Wine, Bow, London.

This £1,000 Freehold House FREE

THE £1,000 HOUSE.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

A Unique and Unprecedented Opportunity to obtain a splendid House, with all modern improvements, absolutely without a penny expense.

Read the particulars below—then enter for this remarkably simple competition.

NO ENTRANCE FEE.

THE PRIZE HOUSE.

Situated within 35 minutes of town, with a very good train service, the house we are offering is a prize well worth winning. It stands in a charming well-stocked garden of about a quarter of an acre. The rooms number eight—3 reception and 5 bedrooms—with kitchen, etc. The kitchen is fitted with Eagle Range and Gas Stove. The dining and two bedrooms are completely furnished with white enamelled fitments—carpets, table and chairs only required to complete the furnishing of these rooms. The house is let on repairing lease until Feb. 1912, at £45 p.a. (The tenant does all repairs outside and inside.) The deeds have been deposited at Solicitor's offices in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

THE EASY COMPETITION.

All you have to do is to write a humorous description advertising this prize house for sale The following is an example:—

"To loafers, monied magnates, and City men. For Sale, an eight-roomed cottage, reclining in its own flower (?) beds and usually surrounded by ½ acre of mud. A correctly filled in Form IV. (a great curiosity) forms a valuable part of the property. Near post, pub. and prison. Standing room only; no bedrooms; garden shady but honest; tree on loan; ground rent only 1d. per day ('Times' Plan)."

CONDITIONS.

EACH ATTEMPT TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY ORDER AND CASH (P.O. 1/1) FOR 25 OF THE FAMOUS G. PASQUALI CIGARETTES.

Writing to be on one side of the paper only, with name and address written clearly.

The decision as published in "John Bull" is to be accepted as final, and competitors enter only on this understanding.

The object of this Competition is to still further popularize

Pasquali's Oronto Cigarettes

manufactured by the well-known firm of GEO. DE PASQUALI, LTD., Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, the excellence and high quality of which are already well-known to, and appreciated by, discriminating smokers in all parts of the country.

THE WRITER OF THE MOST HUMOROUS ADVERTISEMENT SENT IN WILL BE AWARDED THE PRIZE OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED HOUSE FREE OF ALL LEGAL EXPENSES OR COSTS.

The writers of the 23 next best advertisements will be awarded consolation gifts as under:—

2nd. 2,000 Cigarettes. 3rd. 1,000 Cigarettes.
4th. 500 Cigarettes. 5th—23rd. 100 Cigarettes each.

Mr. GEO. GRAVES will act with two other gentlemen as judges, and their decision as published must be accepted as final. There is no restriction as to the number of entries, but each entry must be accompanied by order and cash for 25 G. Pasquali Cigarettes, to

THE PASQUALI FREEHOLD HOUSE COMPETITION, 83, HAYMARKET, LONDON.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

"Lysistrata."

"A Dream of Fair Women," clad in diaphanous draperies, their sandalled feet beating time to the tune of Love—a warm, passionate, jewel-starred sky, woven with summer moonbeams—a sky such as the artistic brush of an Alma Tadema, a Burne-Jones, or a Dante Gabriel Rossetti might have painted—voices whispering from a deepening mist, low laughter charging the air with silvery semitones, and "Lysistrata" standing alone—a majestically imposing figure, with "clear eyelids lifted north and south,"—draws her raiment closer about her limbs, and gazes in mute delight on the accomplishment of her desire. She has secured peace—she has stayed the hand of war.

It may be that in hunting along pathways hushed by years of silence, Gertrude Kingston, the directress of the lovely "Little Theatre" in John Street, Adelphi, has lighted on a subject that to the suffragist mind causes wonderment as to the similarity of days gone by and the present battle with women over their rights.

But it is Mr. Housman, the author or adaptor, who has coloured the work of Aristophanes with so clever a coating as to make it fit into the modern frame carved by the crowd of earnest militants fighting for the power they are clamouring for to-day.

And it is this vast throng of women who should support Miss Kingston in her noble efforts to help them attain the end they have in view. But strangely enough Gertrude Kingston has unwittingly pointed out *precisely where the weak spot of this great woman movement exists.*

It is "Lysistrata" who is the *ruling spirit* of the play, it is she, and *she alone* who achieves the success of the scheme, and thus does she point significantly to the fact that there *must be but one head* to this serious campaign, and not a series of them running in various directions.

"Company for George," at the Kingsway.

Do you know, wrong as it may be, I couldn't help a sympathetic sort of feeling welling up into my chest when I watched pretty little Mrs. Birch's undisguised admiration for the good-looking young 'varsity fellow, William Claypole.

In nature these two cheery beings seemed so eminently suited to one another that I wanted the elderly Mr. Birch to clear out and leave the coast free for his wife to elope with Willie and have a good time, instead of the perpetual melancholy she had been accustomed to.

Poor "Gay," it was too bad, for all she got were a few gadfly philanderings, blown on to her cheek in an impulsive fit of joyful delirium, after William had firstly been accepted by another girl, and then won thousands at horse-racing. Why, Mrs. Birch didn't even receive a solitary kiss *en pleine bouche* to console her for the tender way she had waited on Willie, and pandered to his comforts.

But "Company for George" is an excellent bit of fooling—two or three scenes require a little careful manipulation perhaps, but the fun is genuine, it is real farce, and when the actors and actresses play closer together and take things at a quicker speed it will be even funnier still. At the present moment most of them seem to be feeling their way as it were, and passages that should go like lightning, drag in spots.

Miss Helen Mar, the famous American "story-teller" keeps everybody "merry and bright" before the curtain rises on *le plat du soir.*

Jane Hading at the Hippodrome.

I shall not easily forget my first impression of Jane Hading as the wretched misguided "Femme X" when I saw her in this character at the Porte St. Martin in Paris nearly two years ago. The actress literally rushed on to the stage, mad with anxiety to see her sick child—her boy whose life the doctor said was hanging merely on a thread. Gowned all in black, with a big black hat, a veil over her face, and with but one single La France rose to relieve the sombreness of her costume, Madame Hading had to all appearances just stepped from her automobile after a drive along the Bois. The contrast then in the second act—a fifth-rate hotel in Bordeaux, where, sodden with drugs and absinthe, you see her a wreck of her former beautiful self, for lower, lower, and lower she has sunk into poverty and degradation—was too pitiful to behold.

At the Hippodrome, Madame Hading has not been well-advised to make her *debut* at the halls in act number two of Bisson's powerful tragedy. Few there are who know the entire play—few there are who, understanding French, can make out what the plot is all about—and those who are not able to follow the foreign language cannot possibly get hold of the gist of the story.

I, as an ardent admirer of Jane Hading—although she has scarcely ever risen in her art beyond the *succes d'une jolie femme*, think she might have selected a one-act play—"Jean-Marie" for instance—in which she would have been seen to far better advantage.

In Press circles great alarm is—Mary's conquered "Vi et armis."

Open Letter to John Bull.

October 22, 1910.

Dear John,

Indifference is the worst form of selfishness The man who is indifferent to the claims upon his support of British industries would be the loudest in his outcries if his own employer went to the foreigner when he wanted a man. Think of that phase of the question when next you buy shaving soap! Give British labour and British workmen the benefit of your support by trying the "British and Best" Erasmic Shaving Stick. Better than any other; British or foreign. You can easily prove this by test.

Trial Sample "Erasmic" Shaving Stick sent for two penny stamps; money returned if not satisfactory. What could be fairer?

Yours truly,

"ERASMIC."

The Erasmic Co., Ltd.,

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MEN'S COMBINATIONS.

Many are the advantages of the "Combination" over the old two garment suit. There is no double thickness at waist line—they are in one piece throughout — they button all the way down—the shirt fits with far more comfort.

Winter Weight Combinations in Ribbed Cotton. 12/6

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SILK TIES A Splendid range of rich patterns—wide open ends—cut from best English Silk Square 2/-

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THE NEW SERUM CURE.

DOES NOT NEED TO BE INJECTED, BUT MAY BE TAKEN LIKE AN ORDINARY MEDICINE.

Sequarine Cures Disease, Heals Sores, and Overcomes the Weakness of Old Age. Will make possible a wonderful conquest of disease.

The wonderful effectiveness of the serum treatment for disease, discovered by the late Prof. Brown-Sequard, is daily becoming more apparent. Thousands of patients are now taking the treatment with most gratifying results. While many of them are being treated under the direct supervision of skilled physicians, others have taken advantage of the simplicity and convenience of self-treatment, and are using the serum in the privacy of home without medical attendance. The reports of cures which come to hand from every part of the United Kingdom and the Continent clearly indicate that Sequarine, as the serum is called, will indeed make possible such a conquest of disease as has never before been realised. The fact that *Cambridge University, the University of Paris, and the Harvard University of America* conferred honorary degrees upon the discoverer is certain proof of the merits of his discovery, and the action of the *London Royal College of Physicians* in presenting him with the Baly Medal is convincing evidence of the efficacy of Sequarine.

After Prof. Brown-Sequard had made known the secret of his discovery to the

PARIS BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sensational Cures

effected by use of the serum were reported by a large number of distinguished doctors.

Professor G. von Hirsch (Physician in Ordinary to H.M. the Tsar) quickly cured cases of *Anæmia* and *Neurasthenia* with it.

Dr. Mariett, of Vienna, cured *Diabetes* with Sequarine.

Dr. Yazikoff cured a well-known Moscow Bishop (aged 84) of a long-standing case of *General Weakness* by the use of the Serum.

Professors Fremy and Susor, of St. Petersburg, were able to heal *sores* with the new curative marvel.

Professor Eulenberg, of Vienna, cured *Incipient Paralysis* with it.

Professor Richter, of Berlin, Professor Goizet, of Paris, and Dr. Lavin, of St. Petersburg, reported Sequarine to be a cure for *Nervous Disorders, Indigestion, Scrofula, Gout, Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lung Inflammation, Diabetes, Locomotor Ataxy, Lost Vitality, Wasting Diseases, and Functional Weakness of any kind.*

PROF. BROWN-SEQUARD, F.R.S., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), LL.D. (Cambridge), formerly head of Queen Square Hospital, London, for Paralysis and Nervous Diseases, and Professor of Pathology at the University of Paris.

The discoverer of the simple Serum cure for disease.

Nature and Action of the Serum.

According to leading physicians the nature of Sequarine and the manner of action on the human organism in curing disease may be briefly summarised as follows:

Within every animal body there exists a "power of disease resistance," the principle of "Natural immunity"; this power resists the entrance of any disease into the body, and if it is of normal strength readily repels the disease even after it has gained entrance. In treating disease doctors are aided greatly by the principle of "natural immunity." The homœopaths rely on it almost entirely—and in a great many instances drugs get the credit for a cure when vital resistance has really effected it. The greatest scientists have always been baffled in their endeavours to discover the element or force which is the basis of this peculiar power. In his search for this element Professor Brown-Sequard discovered that there exists in the blood infinitesimal quantities of a fluid which subsequently proved to be the *basis of the power of natural immunity from disease.*

This fluid is the serum which has been named Sequarine in his honour.

What Sequarine Cures.

Sequarine is a cure for any ailment or weakness brought about by lack of nerve power or an accumulation of impurities in any part of the body.

Doctors have begun using it personally, as well as in their general practice. Many members of the Nobility are already using it on the advice of their physicians. In order to place this wonderful serum within the reach of all, a book, containing full particulars of its action, properties, and uses, will be given absolutely free to anyone calling or writing for it.

How the Treatment is Taken.

The serum is prepared in two fornis. One form is for injection under the skin. This is for patients who prefer to take the treatment under the direct supervision of a doctor. The second form is for taking by way of the mouth like an ordinary medicine. *The latter form is very convenient for self-treatment, which may be taken in the privacy of home.*

An Invitation to the Ill.

Anyone desirous of knowing more about the Sequarine Serum Treatment should send for the Sequarine Book, which is being distributed free to the British public. This book contains the story of the discovery of Sequarine, divulges the secret of its composition ($C_2H_5N_1$), and gives descriptions of the ailments for which this serum has been found to be a cure. It is filled from cover to cover with startling new matter of great practical value alike to the ordinary reader, the physician, and the student.

The ailing are specially invited to send for this Book on Serum treatment. It contains information which if acted upon will surely mean a restoration to perfect health. A copy will be sent gratis and post free to any inquirer.

If you cannot call personally write to-day for the Sequarine Book. Simply send name and address (*please write distinctly*) to C. Richter and Co., Manufacturing Chemists, 61, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

Au Revoir.

After to-day I am to come out of my little corner here and to have more of my own say in the world, instead of calling it out from behind John's back, as I have hitherto done. By nature I'm a contented, firesidey sort of person, fond of a chatter and a joke, but not at all given to getting up on to hustings and waving umbrellas. Now, however, I have begun to think that the time for that kind of purring silence is rather getting past. My generation of sisters have been marching ahead somewhat of late years in many ways, yet in many other ways they have got into dreadful muddles, and most of all, they seem to be all dissatisfied about something. Everyone is clamouring for some moon or other. Now, I shall not hope to put all that right by my own mere talking, but I do think it won't be a bad idea to give them all a central medium to talk into. And that is what I want to do in *Mrs. Bull*. I'm going to be a sort of Chairwoman myself, hear the speeches, order the meeting, and see that everyone has fair play. Then I think we may, amongst us, hit on some happy method of "give and take"—dreadfully uncommon in my sex!—and, through our general good-humour, work out some sane and sensible reforms in the hundred thousand little things that only women can manage with success—men being, of course, one of them!

Playing at Slavery.

Because, pretend as much as we like to keep our husbands and leaders generally in a good humour, there are lots and lots of things in our social life to-day that do want overhauling badly. I know it doesn't do to say that in ordinary conversation—at a dinner-party, say, or a dance. Men snort disgustedly and say you're "strong-minded" (which is another name for "ugly" in the masculine vocabulary), and promptly desert your side and talk to some other woman about servants, babies' illnesses, and the weather—orthodox topics. All men do that: the most serious Victorian ones as well as the frivols and the moderns. Hence—a *raison d'etre* for *Mrs. Bull!* So keep all those real thoughts of yours, my dear sisters, away from the dinner and the dance, and write them to me instead; I'll air them for you to your hearts' content. Go on hoodwinking those sticks of men whom you meet in home or society, and by all means let them go on imagining you to be the soul-less pudding-maker or the tinsel doll they fondly believe all women to be (for they have only those two classifications for all womankind, a slave or a toy, with the eventual and tragic necessity for the latter to turn into the former after her first youth is gone!).

Laughing Reformers.

And we're not going to be ugly or solemn because we are in earnest. Just look back at feminine history—Continental. The women of the Renaissance—freeing themselves from the long grim trammels of mediævalism, when they were shut in castles or convents and bound down by a rigid social superstition, iron in its cruelty—did nothing much more terrible than become very light-hearted. The laughter of the Renaissance still comes ringing down the dusty ages. The women of Shakespeare, who were the English types of the Beatrice d'Estes, the Monna Lisas, and the Marguerite de Valoises of the Continent, are the epitomes of humanity, laughter, and charm. Rosalind and Beatrice have never been beaten for delightfulness. Now this age is changing—for its women—quite as certainly as did the Europe of Boccaccio and pretty Platonisms. And do let us follow the example of these velvet-clad dames and be good-humoured, and good to look at, in our changes. Let us banish altogether the miserable Calvinistic idea that to be wise or sensible you must be a guy in thick boots with scraggy hair, with a coat that doesn't fit at the back. The enthroning of wit, wisdom, and beauty—with a stress on the latter—was the aim of those jewelled Florentine and Venetian princesses and dear "donnas." Well, let us take up the movement in their gay spirit. Let us show the world, and particularly that slow-coach world of timid and pseudo-shocked men, that we can develop a working philosophy of our own, very practical indeed in its results, without looking hideous, getting loud-voiced, hysterical, or sloppy-coated! Next week look out for me on the bookstalls. I shall have a lot to say to you, and something to John.

TRADE NOTE.

The new rubberless raincoats which are now so much the vogue, are, perhaps, the most useful garments that have been brought out for a long time. They are soft and light, will protect the wearer from the heaviest downpour, and yet have none of the unhealthy effects which was the great disadvantage of the mackintosh. One of the best of these raincoats is called the "Wetresista," and although it is cut in the smartest style and has the same advantages as 3 and 4 guinea coats, is sold at 35s. on the plan of money back if not approved. For fuller particulars our readers should see advertisement elsewhere in this issue, or write to the sole makers, Connock and Lockie, 60, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.

All should follow in her steps—Mary's "Facile princeps."

A REMARKABLE BOOK ON THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH.

Dr. Andrew Wilson, the distinguished authority on Hygienic Science and Health Questions, is evidently a believer in Thomas Carlyle's doctrine that there is no utility in pointing out misfortunes unless you at the same time indicate the remedy.

In his remarkable little book, "The Art of Living," just issued from the press, Dr. Wilson not only points out that "Our first duty to ourselves is to check illness at the outset," but he follows up this admonition with the more welcome information how we are to do it. He, so to speak, says: "You have the evil of ill-health to fight. Now, here's the weapon to fight with. Strike for freedom." For example, he says: "Suppose a person has run down—feels languid and is easily tired. If he neglects this warning—for all such signs and symptoms are Nature's warning to us—the possibility is that he will pass further afield into the great lone land of disease.

"Can he do anything to save himself from such a disastrous result? In the vast majority of cases he can restore his vigour." How? Dr. Wilson tells his reader how without delay, adding at once this remarkable statement: "Probably he will be advised to take a tonic. This in the main is good advice. Unfortunately, the number of tonics is legion; but if there exists any preparation which can combine in itself the properties of a tonic and restorative, and which at the same time can contribute to the nourishment and building up of the enfeebled body, it is evident such an agent must prove of the utmost value to everybody. I have found such a tonic and restorative in the preparation know as Sanatogen."

How the distinguished author found this tonic he tells us in an interesting bit of autobiography. "Recovering from an attack of Influenza," he says, "and suffering from the severe weakness incidental to that ailment, Sanatogen was brought under my notice. I gave it a fair trial, and the results were all that could have been desired. In a short time my appetite improved, the weakness was conquered, and without the use of any other medicine or preparation I was restored to health." It is easy to believe that this experience led the doctor to make a thorough investigation into this specific which had served him so well.

Sanatogen, he tells us, "combines two distinct elements—one tonic and the other nutritive." Further, it is no "secret" remedy, for, as he pertinently observes, "Its composition is well known; otherwise medical men would not prescribe it."

What the tonic and nutritive elements of Sanatogen are, and how they effect so much good, Dr. Wilson describes in simple, convincing terms. The whole passage is too long to quote; but one important remark of the writer may be given—namely, that one of the principal elements of Sanatogen "represents the substance which actually forms a very important, if not the most important, constituent of our brain and nervous system."

How, through regenerating the nervous system, Sanatogen restores the functions of the digestive organs, and by rebuilding the whole body compensates the wear-and-tear of latter-day life; how it does away with the need of stimulants and cures the sick by the natural method of making the body strong enough to drive out disease—all this, in the delightful style of Dr. Wilson's language, makes engrossing and pleasant as well as instructive reading.

A limited number of complete specimen copies of "The Art of Living," by Dr. Andrew Wilson, are available for distribution. A copy will be sent, post free, on application to the publishers, F. Williams and Co., 24, Alfred Place, London, W.C., mentioning John Bull.

(Sanatogen, the therapeutic nutrient alluded to by Dr. Andrew Wilson in the book named above, has probably been put to more severe and searching analyses and tests than any other specific of modern years, and the result, as declared by the unanimous voice of the medical Press, is to place the preparation quite in the forefront of all nerve tonics. The *Medical Times* says: "It is probably in cases of weakening or exhaustion of the nervous system, accompanied by various forms of mental and bodily inefficiency, that Sanatogen proves most useful.")

Sanatogen is sold by all chemists, in tins from 1s. 9d. to 9s. 6d.

GENUINE SECOND-HAND FURNITURE.

High-class Modern and Antique Furniture, at Exceptionally Low Prices, for Cash or by Gradual Payments.

PURCHASED FROM VARIOUS PRIVATE SOURCES.

IMPORTANT NOTE.—At the suggestion of many of our customers, we have decided to open a second-hand department, which will be carried on at our premises, 15 to 23, Southampton Row, and also at our extensive warehouse, pending other arrangements.

Please take note that we, the **Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.**, do not run this department as a so-called depository, but as a branch of our own business, and under our own name.

The great demand that there is for good and genuine second-hand furniture, and the knowledge that we can supply same is our reason for opening this fresh department.

MIDLAND FURNISHING CO., LTD. Second-hand Department. Amongst the goods for sale are:—5 solid oak armchairs with rush seats and finished antique colour, 18s. 6d. each (worth double); drawing-room suite, consisting of large settee, two very large easy chairs and four small chairs, covered with very handsome tapestry, £8 8s. (worth £16 16s.); very handsome 3-piece drawing-room suite, consisting of double drop end Chesterfield, large size divan easy chair and large wing ditto, upholstered in Rose du Barry colour tapestry, £8 8s. (worth £18 18s.); 5-piece French drawing-room suite with gilt frames and upholstered in silk tapestry, £18 18s. (worth £40); 6-ft. mahogany Sheraton-style bedroom suite, comprising wardrobe with two large plate-glass doors, drawers and cupboards in centre, large dressing table, washstand and three cane-seat chairs, £28 18s. 6d. (worth £40); very handsome dining-room suite, solid oak frames and upholstered in Morocco, comprising:—Stuff-over couch, two large easy chairs and six upholstered back small chairs, £15 15s. (worth £40); very handsome walnut settee with rush seat, £3 3s. (worth £6 6s.); mahogany occasional table, Chippendale style, with six legs, £1 10s.; mahogany occasional table, with eight legs, very handsome; £1 10s, mahogany occasional table, Chippendale style, with six legs; £1 5s.; very large oak bookcase, with drawers and cupboard below and fitted leaded lights in doors above, £7 17s. 6d. (worth £11 11s.); 7-piece drawing-room suite, Louis style, comprising large settee, two large easy chairs and four small chairs, upholstered in blue silk tapestry, £9 9s. (worth £14 14s.); very large oak settle, finished antique, £3 3s. (worth £6 6s.); pair bronze figures, 10s. 6d.; very large and handsome oak hall-stand, with seat fitted in centre, £6 6s. (worth £10 10s.); ditto, ditto, £6 6s. (worth £10 10s.); 4-ft. fumed oak wardrobe, with large bevelled plate door, £4 17s. 6d. (worth £7 7s.); dressing chest with bevelled plate and side glasses, washstand with marble top and tiled back, polished Chippendale colour, £5 5s. pair; 6-ft. mahogany Sheraton style bedroom suite, comprising wardrobe, with two large bevelled plate doors, drawers and cupboard in centre, large dressing-table with landscape glass attached, washstand with marble top and back, and three cane-seat chairs, £37 10s. (worth £60); dressing chest with landscape mirror and side reflecting mirrors, washstand, marble top and back with towel rails attached, polished Chippendale colour, £6 6s. (worth £12); 4 ft. 6 in. oak sideboard with long bevelled mirror to back, fitted drawers and cupboards under, £5 5s.; satin walnut gent.'s wardrobe, fitted for hanging in top part and drawers under, a bargain, £6 16s. 6d.; 4-ft. bedroom suite, polished Chippendale colour, comprising wardrobe, dressing chest with side reflecting mirrors, washstand and two cane-seat chairs, £17 17s. (worth £25); very large wing divan easy chair, upholstered in green corded velvet, £4 4s. (cost £10 10s.).

We allow 5 per cent. discount for cash, but if you do not wish to pay ready money, you may take advantage of our well-known Gradual Payment System, and have the payments spread over one, two or three years, without one halfpenny extra charge or added interest whatsoever. No deposit is required.

This is an advantage that the so-called depositories cannot and will not give.

THE MIDLAND FURNISHING Co., Ltd.,

15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

We buy second-hand furniture to any extent. Catalogues are now ready.

All country orders are packed free and carriage paid.

MENTAL EXHAUSTION

Sperminum is the natural source of health and vital strength isolated and purified from organic bases.

In the form of the Essence, Spermin acts as a REVIVER of VITAL ENERGY, and so stimulates healthy body juices, which resist disease and retard vital decline.

NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, FATIGUE from OVERWORK, and MENTAL and PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION brought about by OVER-INDULGENCE in ATHLETICS will find a corrective in in Poehl's Spermin Essence.

It is of SPECIAL CURATIVE VALUE in all DISORDERS of the BLOOD, the NERVES, and the HEART.

Sold in original bottles under the warranty of the ORGANO-THERAPEUTIC INSTITUTE of Professor VON POEHL & SONS, by all Chemists, at 8/6 per bottle.

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TO interest you—seriously—in the advantages of making money in the stock market we will for 30 days after the receipt of the coupon below, *without a penny of cost to you,* give you the option as agreed below, on a £100 Share of Brighton 'A' Stock. Will you prove for yourself without risk—what hundreds of our clients are proving with their cash—that judicious speculation is the only way to make money.

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I buy the call option for 30 Days on £100 Stock Brighton "A" on the distinct understanding that the cost, £2, is deducted from my profits; *that I pay you no money whatever.* If no profit is shown, I have no liability in the matter.

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ADDRESS.....

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

BRANCH REPORTS.

Birmingham.—We have to report another successful meeting, the third of a series arranged by the Executive Committee, which was held in the Grove Lane Council School, Handsworth, on Friday evening last. There was a capital attendance and the proceedings went with a swing throughout. The Local Secretary for the Handsworth Branch, Mr. J. S. Savage, presided, and an able address on the objects of the League was delivered by Mr. C. L. Kay. Judging by the enthusiasm he aroused and the number of new members which were enrolled at the close of the meeting, the Handsworth Branch will become one of the most influential of the Birmingham centre. The audience much appreciated the excellent musical programme which had been provided, Mr. J. Nicholson's violin solos and Mr. Sidney Albert's humorous selections being most enthusiastically encored, whilst Mr. Bert Forss, who had made such a success at our previous meetings, was immensely popular. Mr. James Cond ably officiated at the piano.

Dundee.—Before a large and enthusiastic audience, assembled in the Masonic Hall, Rankin Street, on Wednesday, October 12th, the proceedings opened with the singing of the League Song, admirably rendered by Mr. G. Blain and accompanied by Mr. G. Mudie, the chorus being heartily taken up. The Local Secretary, Mr. D. Ballingall, having briefly dealt with the progress of the Branch since the opening meeting, six weeks ago, the Chairman, Councillor R. M. Noble, gave an interesting address, in which he dealt with the necessity for such an organisation as the League. He said that the report which appeared in the Dundee press on the 10th, announcing the meeting and the formation of the Branch, had created quite a sensation, and he hoped to see it occupying a leading and influential position in the district. In conclusion he urged the members to concentrate their efforts on organisation work during the next few weeks. Great enthusiasm prevailed, and many new members were enrolled.

Hull.—The local secretary has arranged for a meeting to be held in Oddfellows' Hall, Charlotte Street, on Friday, October 28th, at 7.30 p.m., when it is hoped members will assemble in force, as some important business connected with the organisation of the branch will be transacted.

Leicester.—A highly successful meeting was held in the Secular Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., the chair being taken by Dr. McAllister Hewlings. Despite the inclemency of the weather, there was a capital attendance of members and friends, who thoroughly enjoyed the interesting musical programme which had been provided. Dr. Hewlings dealt at some length with the objects of the League, and observed that the present system of party politics was simply a game of poker or bluff. What the league was aiming at was a Business Government, with experts at the head of the various departments of the State. His declaration that the head of the Admiralty should be an experienced sailor and the head of the War Office a trained soldier met with hearty applause. Summarising the objects of theLeague, he said that the President, had given them some true, grand and wide principles to follow, and, in conclusion, said that when they realised how stifled they were to-day, in the atmosphere of spurious politics and religion the John Bull League came like a breath of fresh air, which it was their duty to develop and fan into a gale to fill the lungs of all and thus bring robust life. The Local Secretary (Mr. E. Pinder) also addressed the meeting, and reported a gratifying increase of membership. The Committee are indebted to Mr. Randolph Todd, Mr Chas. Barratt, Miss Elsie Letts and Master J. Barratt for their services in connection with the musical portion of the programme.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—A final reminder to members not to forget the Whist Drive and Dance at the Drawing Room Café, Northumberland Street, on Wednesday next. The project is being warmly taken up, and we trust the enterprise of the Executive Committee will be rewarded by a splendid attendance. Tickets can be obtained of the Local Secretary, Mr. W. R. Rice, 51, Dilston Road, Newcastle, but immediate application is necessary, as the number is limited.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member of the
JOHN BULL LEAGUE,
and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 1/-

Name .....

Address .....

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DISCOVERY OF A NATURAL HAIR COLOUR TONIC.

Grey, Dull or Faded Hair Restored to its Natural Colour by a Simple Method.

OFFER OF SPECIAL TRIAL SUPPLIES TO ALL.

Only the young can afford to think that they would not mind looking old. But as years roll on and the first tell-tale hairs appear we become painfully aware that our one-time belief is good to forget.

A well-known Paris house of Toilet Specialists has scored a unique triumph in the introduction of a wonderful preparation, the use of which will immediately—the word is used in its full sense—bring back to dull, grey and faded hair its original pristine beauty.

Such a preparation it is certain will be welcomed by a great number of people, for in these days of strenuous exertion, mentally and bodily, we find that hairs turn grey earlier in life, whilst with woman the full rich beauty of the hair in youth is quickly lost.

To those who have noticed the first grey hair appearing, who have watched the falling from beauty of locks that once were a pride, this announcement will come as a great boon, especially when we add that the proprietors are offering special trial bottles to all readers of John Bull who desire to test its wonderful power.

The proprietors think that in these days when chemist shops are flooded with hair dyes of doubtful value, it is only fair to the public to give them an opportunity of fully testing the value of this new preparation at practically no cost. Therefore several thousand special bottles have been made up, and those who have need of such a preparation are cordially invited to apply to the address given.

The name "Tanura" has been given to the new preparation, which is intended for use by those with grey hair, or with hair gradually losing its colour. Its effects are realised promptly and those who to-day are suffering from grey hair may on the morrow appear with hair that has nearly, if not quite, regained its full rich colouration. "Tanura" does not in any way have a harmful effect upon the hair-roots or the hair-shafts.

As a matter of fact, this preparation is a hair tonic dye, and will work wonders with dull hair, giving it new life and an appearance of genuine vitality.

It is certain that such cannot be claimed by the so-called hair-colourers that are placed on the market. "Tanura" is practically the only hair-colour preparation that, in addition to carrying out its principal work, encourages the growth of the hair in its full strength.

Those who use "Tanura" may rest assured that its use cannot be detected by strangers, or even those who are continually with them during the day. It dyes the hair evenly, the colour never varies, is fast, and never rubs off.

As everyone knows, grey hair is a failing that is never fashionable, and is a trouble that causes a great deal of mental distress. In business it may be a great drawback, in social life it seems to set its possessor as a mark for neglect. Then, again, grey hairs are hairs that will speedily fall from the head, with resulting baldness. All this may be promptly stopped by the use of "Tanura," a simple, effective preparation.

There is no need to further emphasise the value of "Tanura." The youthful appearance it gives to the face is such that every man and woman will appreciate. "Tanura," applied to the hair, will take off in appearance five or six years of a man's or woman's life, and assist greatly in the creation of smartness in man and beauty in woman.

The proprietors will send to all applicants a special trial bottle on receipt of 3d. in stamps. This trial bottle will be quite a sufficient supply to let the recipient see what great benefits its use will bring. "Tanura" is made up in four shades—blonde, light and dark brown, or black. When writing, please state which you require.

Applications for special trial bottle of "Tanura" should be sent without delay. If larger sized bottle is desired, a postal order for 2s. or 3s. 6d. should be sent, addressed to L. Chapins, Colebrooke Works, 41, Islington, N. Advt

FREE TO THE RUPTURED

A Well Known Authority Sends a Sample of a Famous Method Free to All.

We will send free to anyone who is ruptured, or knows of any person ruptured, a free trial of our famous home cure. It is a marvellous method, curing cases that defied hospitals, doctors, trusses, electricity and all else. Merely send your name and address, and the free trial will be sent without any cost to you whatever. Mr. R. Wharton, 52, Domestic Street, Holbeck, Leeds, was ruptured seven years, tried all kinds of trusses, partly made up his mind to undergo the danger of an operation, when, by the greatest of good luck, he tried the Rice method. He is cured, **and has worn no truss for over six years.**

MR. R. WHARTON.

Mr. Wharton says:—"I tried the Rice method, and it cured me. I had been ruptured seven years and tried all kinds of trusses with no benefit. I am doing all I can to persuade every ruptured person to try this method, which I think is worth its weight in gold."

Every ruptured person ought to send at once and make a trial of this method. It has cured thousands of people without pain, danger, operation, or an hour's loss of time. Begin now, and in a short time you will forget you have been ruptured. Do not fail to send in this Coupon to-day.

COUPON (B 1101).

Cut out and post to **WM. S. RICE, Ltd., 8 & 9, Stonecutter Street, London, E.C.**

Time Ruptured?.....*Age?*.....
Right, left, or both sides, or navel?.....
Name.....
Address.....
.....

IT is careful attention to details that makes "Summits" stand out superior to the usual run of collars. **Shape 24** is an excellent exemplar of this. The elongated effect of the square points gives an appearance of greater depth than is actually there; the rounded tabs are easier for buttoning; and the width of stitching is in proportion to the depth—small details, but just the little niceties that constitute "Summit" superiority.

SIX for THREE shillings. Samples 6½d.

Three CITY shops: **AUSTIN REED** *Ltd.* 13 FENCHURCH STREET. 5 St. Mary Axe. 157a Cheapside London

now, Why do you stick in a groove when there is a certain way out—a road to better positions and better pay? Men like you have entered the Electrical profession with splendid results, and there is room for plenty more good men.

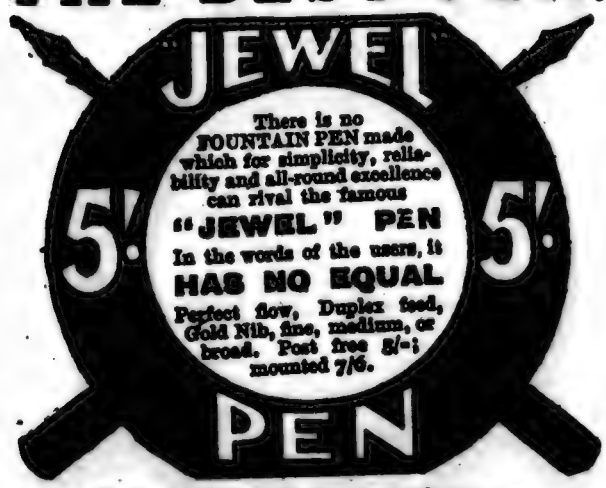
We have proof that places the matter beyond the region of doubt. Let us send you our FREE book "How to become an Electrical or Mechanical Engineer." We train you in the following:—

Complete Electrical Engineering Course,
Mechanical Engineering Course,
Electrical Engineering (Advanced),
Electric Tramways (Special),
Short Electrical Course,
Electric Light and Power Course,
Dynamo Tenders' Course, etc., etc.

Electrical Engineer Institute of Correspondence Instruction,
33, Norwich House, Southampton Street, Holborn, LONDON W.C.

Sir!

THE BEST PEN.


JEWEL
5/-
There is no FOUNTAIN PEN made which for simplicity, reliability and all-round excellence can rival the famous
"JEWEL" PEN
In the words of the users, it
HAS NO EQUAL
Perfect flow, Duplex feed, Gold Nib, fine, medium, or broad. Post free 5/-; mounted 7/6.
5/-
PEN

To be obtained of Stationers, or sole makers.
JEWEL PEN CO., Dept. B, 102, Fenchurch St., London, E.C.

ZEDEX
FOR THE NERVES
THE PILL WITH A RECORD

4/6 Box for 2/6.

"A Combination of Costly Tonics and Nerve Foods ensuring wonderful strength and endurance."

A Scientific Cure for **Neurasthenia, Mental Exhaustion, Brain Fag, Weak Heart, Want of Nerve and Confidence, Harassing Dreams, Loss of Memory, Backache, Dyspepsia, General Weakness,** and most disorders due to a deficiency of the Vital Forces.

ZEDEX re-invigorates the Brain and Nervous System, re-vitalises every function of the body and gives a sensation of physical fitness and mental alertness, whilst its restorative effects are permanent.

DR. KIRBY, says: "Impossible to conceive anything more perfectly adapted for the cure of Loss of Nerve Power than Zedex."

SEND POST CARD FOR FREE SAMPLE

DR. GORDON STABLES, M.D.—"A nerve tonic-food of the highest nutritive an digestive value. A perfect food for building up the Nervous System."

Chief-Constable of Police writes.—"Zedex is the finest tonic I have ever tried."

ZEDEX arouses all the dormant energies, develops muscular or nerve life, feeds weak muscles with rich strength-producing blood, whilst it increases the nourishing power of your food. Advice free.

ZEDEX Co. HOVE SUSSEX.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Do they call him "Simple Simon" in Walthamstow?
Will "Home Rule all round" square matters?
Will the "outcome" of the revolution mean no "income" for Manuel?
Will it be a case of Manuel labour?
With the North, South, East and West railways on strike, wasn't France fairly "cornered"?
Will the oil war lower the Standard?
In projecting a Socialist daily paper, isn't Hardie justifying his name?
Won't "turning out" too many new teachers necessitate turning out old ones?
Isn't the hop trade bound to be an up and down one?
Will she be known as Mrs. Robert Lohraine?

The rumour that King Manuel intends to become an aviator is unfounded. There is a difference between flying for your life, and flying for your living.

Bexhill and Blackpool were the names of two persons fined at Hastings Police Court. Bright 'uns, no doubt.

Mushroom carried off a race at Newmarket recently. We understand it "came up" quickly.

Mr. Robert Loraine is to wed Miss Marie Lohr, who does not like his high flights. He must take a Lohr view.

The statement that Morane, the aviator, has won £12,000 within the past three months, almost tempts us to have a little flutter ourselves.

"Tariff Reform Means Reversing the Fiscal Policy," says the *Express*. But do we want any more reverses?

"Teachers Trained to Starve," reads an *Express* headline. Generally one has to starve to train.

Mr. Edison is asking, "Will New York City go to Heaven?" Not unless he blows it up.

"There are foolish women as well as wise ones," Mr. Haldane informs us. What a brain!

The boom in the hosiery trade puts the manufacturers in the paradoxical position of hoping that the short skirt will be worn long.

A stamping machine has been installed at Threadneedle-street Post Office. Hitherto the customers have done the stamping.

An Acton man, found lying on the pavement, said he thought he was blackberrying. His wits, at least, were wool-gathering.

"Sir J. A. Simon Sits on the Fence," reads a heading. But he's only waiting for another "seat."

A scarcity of lemons is reported. No matter, we can manage without lemon-aid.

"Pitch and toss is a scientific game," says Alderman Huggett, of Tottenham. Has he ever played "coddam"?

A German clergyman, who was always willing to officiate at clandestine ceremonies, was known as the "lovers' friend." Why?

"Young Cabbage," of Fulham, and "Spud" Murphy, of Wandsworth, indulged in a glove contest recently. Many specked-taters were present.

The admission of three new women advocates to the French Bar indicates that women are taking up, as well as laying down, the law.

Mr. Cobbold, the new Mayor of Ipswich, captained the Suffolk County Cricket Team for three seasons. He ought to score.

By his will, a Scotsman has provided free dentistry for the poor of his native town. Many will shout his praises.

A gardener recommends the cultivation of "window orchards." A sour pair may often be seen at the window, and sometimes a perfect peach.

"My mis-take," as the pickpocket remarked when caught in the act.

"Woman's highest mission in life is motherhood," says *Madame*. Yet many women think it beneath them.

"We carry our past with us," says Dr. Tudor Jones. So our past is always present.

The newest treatment for certain ailments is hanging by the neck. We were under the impression that it would cure everything.

Books to be Shelved:—

"The Dawn of British History." The setting is excellent.
"True Stories About Dogs." Very waggish tails.
"Chronicles of Pharmacy." You can dispense with it.
"The Charm of the Road." The tramp is delightful.
"The Empty House." Nothing in it.
"The Rest Cure." The author should know more of his subject.
"Fishery." Contains some good lines.
"The Home Farm." Opens up new fields.
"The Rosebud Annual." A hardy annual, just out.
"Our Home Railways." Just the thing for travellers.
"The Finer Grain." Contains no chaff.
"The Charm of Gardens." The language is rather flowery.

Should ribald ruffians for HER go, John will practise "Vis a tergo."

Horlick's Malted Milk Cocoa.

Special Free Sample Offer to Readers.

For Growing Children, Dyspeptics, Brain Workers, Aged People and Invalids.

Upon receipt of letter or postcard, the Manufacturers of Horlick's Malted Milk Cocoa, Victoria Works, Watford, Herts, will be pleased to forward a Sample of this ideal Family Food Beverage, so that all readers of this publication can fully test its merits. Sold by all chemists and stores in 6d., 9d., and 1/6 tins.

This is YOUR opportunity.

Send a postcard immediately for

"BROCHURE ON MONEY-MAKING."

Gratis and Post Free.

THOMPSON BROS., Trafalgar Buildings, Northumberland Avenue, London, S.W.

Telegrams: "Fulciment, London."
Telephone: Gerrard 1393.

IT COSTS NOTHING, AND MUST INTEREST YOU.

RUPTURE

The new "Bandage Gant" (*Glove Bandage*) of Dr. O. L. Barrère, based upon recent discoveries, must be exclusively adoped, whatever may be the variety, the size and the long standing of the Rupture. Light, imperceptible, of an absolute stability, without metal spring, and possessing a power of retention scrupulously adapted for each individual case, it is nowadays universally considered as the only practical appliance capable of procuring a *radical* relief and the *permanent* reduction of the infirmity. Read the book on Rupture by Dr. Barrère, which is sent gratuitously to all sufferers upon application to Dr. O. L. Barrère, 42, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. Dr. O. L. Barrère begs to announce to his numerous clientèle that he will be at his consulting office in *London* from the *24th* to the *28th inst. inclusive*, and will attend *personally* upon patients who wish to consult him either by calling or by correspondence.

A Tobacco Discovery

NYASA

Smoking Mixture

The superb new Tobacco from Nyasaland, British Central Africa, especially remarkable for COOL SMOKING, AROMATIC FLAVOUR, and FREE BURNING. It possesses exceptionally fine qualities, and has delighted everyone who has smoked it—you will like it.
TRY IT.

per 5D. oz.

Or in Cartridges—Packets containing 14 ..... 5½d.

NYASA Cigarettes

3d. per packet of 10

If you have any difficulty in obtaining NYASA Smoking Mixture, send a postcard to the manufacturers for addresses of the nearest tobacconists who sell it. Made solely by

R. & J. HILL, Ltd., London, E.
ESTD. 1775.

S. & P.

Character in Stationery

Your letter-paper to a large extent betrays your character and your position, as well as your taste. You need not fear the test if you are using

POMPEIAN PARCHMENT

a paper which gives an instant impression of quality and distinction. It is good to look at and good to handle, and it has that surface, midway between rough and shiny, which makes it good to write on. It is stocked in cream only, in the four following sizes—Albert, Duchess, Octavo, at 1/- per 5 quires boxed. Envelopes to match (boxed 100s) 1/- per box, and Large Octavo, 1/6 per 5 quires boxed. Envelopes to match (boxed 250s) 1/6 per 100

Write for Sample Book (J) and address of the nearest stationer who stocks Pompeian Parchment to

W·H·SMITH & SON
Manufacturing Stationers
186 Strand
London
W·C

THE KEELEY CURE.

FOR DRINK AND DRUG HABITS.

Anyone who has a desire to free himself of these awful curses can do so by taking the Keeley Treatment, and will leave the Institute without the slightest crave or desire for either Alcohol or Drugs.

W. T. Stead writes in the *Review of Reviews*—"If I were to become a drunkard I should tell my friends I was going to take a month's holiday in the Keeley Institute, West Bolton Gardens, and rid my system of the last trace of the craving for alcohol; there is no doubt it can be done, nor does there seem to be any reason to fear failure."

The Keeley Treatment is always administered by regularly qualified physicians, who have made a special study of Inebriety. After carefully inquiring into the history of each patient, and making a thorough physical examination, they treat each case according to the condition of the patient. No matter how long-standing the addiction, or how much has been taken, the result is invariably the same, a cure.

No constitution is too delicate for the Keeley Treatment, as the remedies are perfectly harmless.

Patients are given the utmost freedom; there is absolutely no confinement, and until the remedies render it unnecessary, they are allowed their usual amount of alcohol or drugs.

"IT REALLY CURES."

"It really cures. It does what it professes to do. Such is the emphatic testimony of Mr. Eardley-Wilmot the well-known Secretary of the Church of England Temperance Society, who for some years has had the Keeley method under close observation in this country. He tells how case after case that had been considered hopeless has yielded speedily to the Keeley Cure, the patients returning to their work full of vigour, and happy in the restoration of all that makes life worth living.

We can show you hundreds of letters of gratitude from patients who have taken the treatment, and who are willing that their names should be given, or they will correspond direct with prospective patients.

Write us to-day and we will prove to you that this cure is an incontrovertible fact, approved by some of our most eminent men. among them the following; the late Rev. Canon Fleming, B.D.; the Right Hon. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu; H. W. Forster, Esq., M.P.; Rev. R. J. Campbell, M.A.; Richard Burbidge, Esq., and Eardley-Wilmot, Esq., R.N., Secretary of the Church of England Temperance Society.

MORE THAN HALF A MILLION

have taken the treatment, among them 17,000 physicians. Does not this fact alone speak volumes? And twenty per cent. of our patients come through the recommendation of their family physician.

About one-third of the patients are ladies, all of whom have apartments outside the Institute, of their own selection.

The treatment takes four weeks for alcohol (for drugs five to six weeks), and is carried out in the United Kingdom at the Keeley Institute, 9, West Bolton Gardens, London, S.W., or by special arrangements we can either send physician to patient's own home—or to travel with him.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only* THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

DIBBEN & SON (Maldon).—We do not think we will trouble further about the parson and his hair-cut. He is evidently disregarding the Scriptural injunction about laying up treasure upon earth. We are sorry, however, if the Methodist parson in question was supposed to be Dr. Dickenson.

MR. CLAUDE H. MAY—the second of those initials and surname, but this time of Prospect Road, Moseley—also wishes to be dissociated from Norman & Co., of Birmingham. Let 'em all come!

MESSRS. J. FISHER & SONS (Artillery Place, Woolwich), apropos of "Fair Trader's" complaint in our issue of September 24th, say that they do not advertise their waterproofs as new goods, and that it is impossible for any intelligent person to so interpret their statements—while the prices also make the point clear. They send us samples of their announcements, and we certainly agree that this is so. They add that in every parcel they send out they enclose a price-list, in which it is stated that goods not approved of will be exchanged, and claim that they always act up to this undertaking.

H. G. B. (Whitchurch), however, says Fishers sent him "an odd puttee, in a filthy condition, three parts worn out," instead of the pair he had paid for, and, in spite of numerous letters, he cannot get either the proper goods or the return of the money.

"ADMIRER" (Leicester).—It is very difficult to state our circulation, considering that it is always going up. We recently celebrated the fact that it had reached half a million weekly, and are now making arrangements for a similar function to celebrate the three-quarter million mark.

E. J. B. (Newton Abbot).—Mrs. Besant is in no way related to the late Charles Bradlaugh.

"OXONIAN" (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The three original oil-painting posters exhibited on the Strand Island have been: (1) "The House of Commons"; (2) "The Political Derby"; (3) "John Bull's Holiday."

"MATURITY" (Leeds) writes: "Is Mary Meadows a myth or a living member of society? Her scathing criticisms on men belonging to a certain set are truly great. Is she considered amongst her own sex as a type of charming beauty? Or is she of the Suffragette type?" If "W. H." will wait and see, he may glean something from Mary's memoirs, now being blue-pencilled, in preparation for *Mrs. Bull.*

S. T. B. (Ludlow) complains of a photographer named Anthony Blake, who, he says, took a photograph and a deposit but no notice of letters. Perhaps he broke the plate.

"AUTOLYCUS" (Birmingham) dreamed she saw the following in Jim's album:—

"They have made him a Judge!! and given him a gown!!
The news smells in our nostrils unsavoury;
Black wings we were thinking would suit him best
And a flight to the devil's own aviary."

Shades of Horace!

F. P. (Earl's Court).—If you *will* win a "small money prize," you must expect the fiat-catchers to be on your track. That is one of the penalties of fame.

H. C. T. VAN D. is a Boer living in London. He is very annoyed at our recent comparisons between the British Indians and Boers in South Africa, and threatens to come and thrash us if we do not apologise. We hasten to do so. At the same time, people must not be too thin-skinned.

M. E. N. (Bridgwater).—No doubt the Imperial Art Supply Co. will be prosecuted some day—when we have a business Public Prosecutor.

THE OXFORD FINE ART GALLERIES (63, Baker Street) strongly repudiate "Manxman's" suggestion that it is necessary for a purchaser of a half-crown enlargement to order a frame from them; they, however, freely admit that they ask their customers to patronise them in this way (which is but business), but are careful to add that "there is no obligation whatever" to do so.

R. G. (Cambridge) blames the late King for encouraging motor-cars and the Salvation Army. He thinks motors are taking the place of horses, and that there will soon be too few for Army purposes. We thought King Edward did keep a horse or two.

"A BRITISH HEART."—No doubt the people who answer advertisements of blushing cures are too shy to expose them.

"A READER IN CHELTENHAM" writes: "Will you please advise me what to do in a case of very heavy charges by a cabby?" Take a taxi next time.

A. P. (Portland Street) says the overcrowding in tubes is getting worse. We fail to see why this is tolerated when motor-buses are censored by the police.

R. D. (Westbourne Grove).—The blind beggar was a woman. Anyhow, your riddle is much older than photography.

"A READER."—We quite agree with Judge Dodd, of Howden County Court, that it is "a very proper arrangement" for a man to have debts and his wife to have money. Tradesmen should not be in such a hurry to give credit.

J. H. G. (Tooting) enquires about J. Goodenough, Domestic Servant Agency (8, Rendezvous Street, Folkestone). The name and address sound all right.

H. H. T. (East Ham).—Hard luck! But we live in an age of red tape.

A. H. (London, W.) says the South-Western Railway announces special cheap tickets (no luggage allowed) for 1s. 6d. to Kingston, whereas the ordinary fare is only 1s. 8d. (with luggage), and the tram fare 1s. But if we once started on railway vagaries!

X. Q. P. (Brighton) writes: "Was your drink at that Carlsbad banquet water undiluted? Naturally, Mr. Vaughan's flattery was intoxicating." We regret to say that the answer is in the affirmative! We were giving no points away to the wily Bernard—who also drank water.

H. M. S. (Leicester) has to fill in Form 4 in respect of a brick summer-house 8 ft. square, and discerns "the apex of folly." Was there an "easement"?

"BLEATER" (Great Yarmouth) says he can't get paid by a bookmaker named R. Webb (44, Cranbourn Street, W.C.).

(*Continued on page 658.*)

No insidious quips she'll handy—Straight's her "Modus operandi."

Practical Imperialism.

CHEAP FOOD, PURE FOOD, GOOD FOOD.

Ask for AUSTRALIAN
Beef and Mutton,
Butter,
Fruit,
Wine,
Honey.

ENCOURAGE EMPIRE INDUSTRIES.

Commonwealth Offices,
72, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

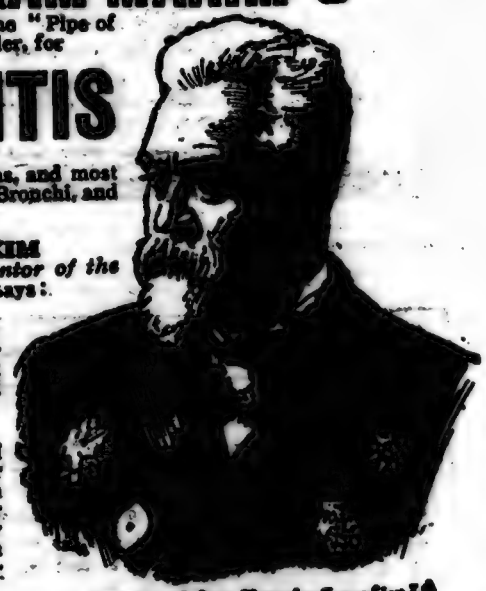
Thousands of Sufferers went

SIR HIRAM MAXIM'S

Great Curative Inventions, The "Pipe of Peace" and Maxim Inhaler, for

BRONCHITIS

Asthma, Nasal Catarrh, Coughs, and most diseases of the Nose, Throat, Bronchi, and Lungs.



Sir HIRAM MAXIM
(*The World-renowned Inventor of the famous Maxim Gun*) says:

"I would not attach my name to any invention which I had not thoroughly tested and proved."

There is a great demand from all parts of the world for the "Pipe of Peace," which is the name given by Sir Hiram Maxim to his new invention, an inhaler by which he has relieved his own Bronchitis and Throat Troubles.

Reproduced from Photo by Langfier L.D.

Write for illustrated booklet giving the full history of these inventions, containing valuable information on Hay Fever, Asthma, Nasal Catarrh, Bronchitis, Coughs, and most diseases of the Nose, Throat, Bronchi, and Lungs, to John Morgan Richards & Sons, Ltd. (Dept. V), 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. The "Pipe of Peace" and the Maxim Inhaler can be purchased at all principal Stores, Chemists, etc., and at the 350 branches of Boots, Cash Chemists, throughout the United Kingdom.

WHY SMOKING IS INJURIOUS.

It is known that Turkish Cigarettes are mostly made from tobacco blended with Suluk, which is impregnated with opium, and consequently the head and the throat suffer considerable irritation owing to this drug. An eminent firm now guarantee their Turkish Cigarettes to be entirely free from Suluk, and offers 100 of their "Fez" Cigarettes (equivalent in value to 4s.) for 2s. 6d. Arrangements have been made with all the leading tobacconists to stock this brand in boxes of 10, 20, 50, and 100, so as to meet the convenience of all.

The name of Messrs. Poulides and Co., 7, Goring Street, Bevis Marks, London, should be a guarantee of good faith, and an innovation of this kind should meet with unqualified success. A postal order for 2s. 6d. addressed direct to this firm will ensure the free despatch of 100 "Fez" Cigarettes by return, in the event of the local tobacconists being out of stock. [ADVT.

ASTHMA SUFFERERS.

Instant Relief in Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup, and Whooping Cough by the use of Potter's Asthma Cure, in 1/- Tins. Sold everywhere. For FREE SAMPLE send post card to POTTER & CLARKE, LTD., Artillery Lane, London, E. [Mention this Magazine.

Instant Relief.

KEEP DRY
in an
"OMNE TEMPUS"
THE REAL RAINCOAT.

The only Rubberless Raincoat with a Guarantee.

"If your 'Omne Tempus' fails to keep out the rain, we will take it back."

This guarantee appears on a label hanging from every "Omne Tempus" coat; in this respect "Omne Tempus" is unique. Moreover, it is not a cold and clammy linen-like fabric, but a comfortable close-woven tweed suitable for present weather—to all appearances an ordinary coating.

If you cannot call and see "Omne Tempus" ranges, we shou'd like to send you patterns and a copy of our book *"Something New under the Rain"*; also a selection of coats if desired.

Ready for wear 45/- or to measure.

Solely obtainable from

SAMUEL BROTHERS, Ltd.

65 & 67, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C., or their Country Agents. (List on request.) Established 80 years.

Ladies' Omne Tempus, 42/-; Boys' or Girls' from 26/6.

Remarkable Development
OF THE PLAYER PIANO.

THE "NEW IDEAL-MIGNON"

STERLING

has been designed to meet the requirements of those desirous of acquiring a thoroughly reliable up-to-date instrument at a very moderate price.

It embodies all the essential features of the more expensive models. The instrument, however, being so simply constructed and of a much smaller type, is not only a convenience where space is a consideration, but the cost of manufacture is enormously reduced—thus from

52 Guineas

the "IDEAL-MIGNON" STERLING can now be obtained

Catalogue 5 free from

COPPLESTON AND CO., LTD.,
STERLING HOUSE, 94, REGENT ST., LONDON, W.

Hunyadi János

Nature's own inimitable remedy for Constipation, Biliousness and Disordered Digestion. Just as Nature creates it and intends it should be taken—it cures

CONSTIPATION

in a natural, easy, certain way. Inexpensive and effective. Try a bottle—and drink half a tumbler on arising.

NATURAL Aperient Water

BRACKNELL'S

—the sauce with the unique flavour.

An Appetiser of first merit. Makes Chops, Steaks, Fish. Fowl, hot and cold meats simply delightful. Try one bottle and see. Your Grocer sells it.

Per Box. Bottle. 6d. Of all Grocers.

If any difficulty in obtaining, send one penny stamp and name of your grocer, and a sample bottle will be sent free by G. & S. BRACKNELL (Dept. 2), Brandon Road, King's Cross, London.

The "MASTA" for Pipe Lovers.

The "Masta" possesses a scientific but simple device which absolutely prevents any nicotine or moisture from reaching the mouth or pipe bowl. It ensures a cool and dry smoke to the end, and allows you to enjoy the full flavour of the tobacco.

There are no parts to get out of order, and the pipe can be easily cleaned.

The "Masta" can be thoroughly enjoyed by those who cannot smoke an ordinary pipe.

Made of best selected briar.

Every pipe guaranteed.

Section of Straight Pattern.

Obtainable of all leading tobacconists. Price 2/6, 4/-, 5/6, 6/-, &c. Cheaper quality, 1/-. Write to-day for free booklet, "Points on Pipes." Full of useful hints.

MASTA PIPE CO. (Dept. 9) 153 FLEET ST., LONDON, E.C.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S "IMPROVED J" PEN

Sold in 6d. boxes, also at 2/6 a gross, black. 3/6 a gross, gilt.

This Pen is the broad point de luxe. It writes with an ease which is astonishing even to regular users of broad-pointed pens. Try it once, and you will use it always.

Obtainable from Stationers, &c.

SAMPLE BOX of highest quality assorted Pens sent post free on receipt of 6d. stamps.

JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS (Dept. 11), 37, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

W. E. G. (Cardiff) sends the following cutting: "Crowe, a former Public Orator at Oxford, had a ready wit. Once, when asked how he was going to bring up his numerous family upon a scanty stipend, he replied: 'We are told that God feedeth the young ravens, and I trust He will also provide for the young Crowes.'" We are getting tired of providing for Old Crow.

R. G. (Nottingham) writes: "Lickspitting, bealavering and whitewashing have not served to hide or diminish the faults of Alexander the Great, and how stands the late King in comparison?" Well, one made war and the other peace.

J. S. H. (Chester).—Thanks for snapshot of our mammoth poster, and also for flattering verse. We prefer, however, publishing sentiments of another character.

M. E. (Paddington).—We believe it is not unusual to insist on inspecting the legs of stage aspirants. But fees should not be extorted from them in advance.

L. W. (Southsea) sends us a post-card which left Cromer at 2 p.m. on July 29, 1905, was post-marked "London, E." at 9.15 a.m. on May 9, 1910, and has now reached Southsea.

F. B. (Sheffield).—Imitation is the highest form of flattery, and we do not grudge local journalists any of our ideas.

G. B. G. (Southampton).—We do publish "the explosive vituperation of Anti-John-Bullites," but it is getting very rare.

W. W. (Glasgow).—We don't understand about the butcher wanted "to kill or half-kill."

J. S. L. (King's Cross) objects to Jim Crow's phrase, "the fruit of the grape." But Dr. Johnson gives fruit as "production," *e.g.*, "the fruit of the spirit," and "advantage gained by any enterprise or conduct, *e.g.*, "the fruits of the King of Sweden's victories.'" So Crow thinks wine may be described as the fruit of the grape, though he admits that bouse would have been shorter.

"A Lambeth Punter" complains of Joe Barnett, Bookmaker, 36, Milton Road, Swindon. What says Joe?

"Moderate" (Weybridge) says Socialists prefer an honest King to a corrupt President, and realise that a police force is necessary at present. But they don't really know what they want. Anyhow, they won't get it, whatever it is.

"A Bath Resident."—Glad we have checked your bad habit of swallowing tears. Hope you have found a better beverage.

Mrs. M. M. (Redcliffe Gardens) complains of the Sunday League trains. She was not allowed to take a small bag, was nearly made to miss her train while booking the bag for the next train, wasted time meeting that train, and eventually found the bag had travelled in her train. And she averaged the break-neck speed of 28 miles an hour.

H. T. (Southampton) has been vainly trying for a fortnight to get a telegram repeated. He wonders how the Post Office will manage the telephones. We don't.

R. (Gosport).—We imagine that, if you leave your hat on your seat at a concert and go out to get a drink, you are entitled to the seat when you return. We hope you enforced your rights.

Capt. A. T. W. (British North Borneo) wants us to supply John Bull watches, razors, cigars, wines, etc., to distant readers. But we are already fairly busy providing them with a newspaper.

"A John Bull Reader" (Liverpool).—We are always anxious to oblige, but we can't publish the winning numbers of the Java Lottery. For one thing, they are not of general interest; for another, we don't know them.

F. E. F. (Acton) has been vainly trying to find some really amusing books for children. Why not try those by E. Nesbit?

R. G. (Leeds) complains of the insufficient food given to the staffs of hotels.

L. B. G. (Upper Tooting).—If you will give us the name and address of the tourist agent, we will make enquiries.

C. H. (Plymouth) informs us that the latest telephone directory (for London trunk calls) at the G.P.O. down there is dated July, 1909.

"An Experienced Teacher" (Barnes).—Yes, but we cannot run to a separate teacher for every child.

F. H. B. (Bristol) was victimised some years ago by the Standard Art Supply Co. (Berwick House, Oxford Street, W.).

"Licensed Pedlar" (Ramsgate) wants to know about M. S. Fry, who runs *The Silent World*, "a magazine devoted to the interests of the deaf."

T. M. (Glasgow) is refused a reference because he insisted on having his lost wages. A sharp solicitor might manage to twist this into a libel.

G. H. S. (Inverness Terrace).—Pius V.'s excommunication of Black Bess scarcely warrants penal laws to-day.

J. L. (Silvertown) wants to find records of people exiled to Vandiemensland in 1800, as he thinks his great-grandfather suffered that fate for marrying his parents' servant.

E. W. (Lea Bridge Road).—The fact that a man has perpetrated poetry does not constitute a claim on our generosity. Otherwise we would subscribe to a testimonial to Crosland.

J. E. P. S. (Ealing) points out that there were seven cows in the Ark (Gen. vii. 2). But that did not prevent Noah getting drunk.

T. F. B. (Trowbridge) objects to labour-saving inventions. He must study elementary political economy.

H. J. (Bristol) says that, if the Vilizir (Hair Treatment) Co. is genuine, it should make millions. But does it?

F. M. S. (Plymouth).—If you signed an order for books on the instalment plan, you may find it difficult to avoid payment.

L. G. H. (Fulham) bought a chestnut gelding, which "turned out to be a mare," and was at once destroyed by Our Dumb Friends' League. He must take Jim Crow with him next time.

H. L. (Port Elizabeth) writes: "What is 15 lashes on the hide of a nigger? It would make no impression. Nothing short of a soft-nose bullet could penetrate the skins of these animals, and this is the sort of thing I should use if I found a nigger in my poultry-runs at night. If you were walking down the main street of Port Elizabeth on the pavement and met a nigger, evil-smelling and greasy, you would have to make way for him and say nothing, otherwise when you came before a magistrate you would be fined £10 or two months, and probably get lashes; but should the nigger push your off and you run him in he would be given a couple of shillings and let off with a tip." What fanaticism about a chicken.

E. M. (Glasgow).—You must know two Freemasons to propose you. And even then . . . How old is your grandmother?

"Inglesor" (Edinburgh).—We are sorry, but our Dutch is getting a little rusty. We only talk civilised languages, like Hungarian, and Servian, and Woollomaloo.

J. W. B. (Fernie, B.C.).—It is rather late to start a discussion on Herbert Vivian's article of 28th August, 1909. But we note your theory that clerks who learn foreign languarges do not obtain a suitable increase of salary.

"Bull-Dog" (Weymouth).—When the auctioneer said he was a liar, he evidently told the truth.

P. R. (Wareham) wants to know if jet is always black.

A. M. L. (Birmingham).—If you had sent the name and address of the man who victimised you, we might have followed him up.

C. H. (Greenock) complains that London banks will only cash £5 notes for their customers. But he could have got change at any respectable public-house.

A. J. (Pembroke).—We did not know that these beautiful lines were attributed to Tennyson:

"Shall I kiss you, oh my darling,"
He rendered there and then;
Some declared it was a starling,
Or a croaking, lovelorn hen.

Are you sure it wasn't Kipling?

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies, but we hope during the next few weeks to work off many arrears.

If asked her motto to select, I at once would say "Mens conscia recti."

Consumption Can be Cured

AT LAST A REMEDY HAS BEEN FOUND THAT CURES CONSUMPTION.

Derk P. Yonkerman, Discoverer of The New Cure for Consumption.

Marvellous as it may seem after centuries of failure, a remedy has been discovered that has cured the deadly Consumption even in the advanced stages of the disease. No one will longer doubt that Consumption can be cured after reading the proof of hundreds of cases cured by this wonderful discovery—some after change of climate and all other remedies tried had failed, and the cases had been pronounced hopeless of cure. This new remedy has also proved itself effective and speedy in curing Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma, and many serious throat and lung troubles. In order that all in need of this wonderful produce of science may test its efficacy for themselves, a company has been formed to give it to the world, and a Free Trial Treatment can be obtained by writing the Derk. P. Yonkerman Co., Ltd., Dept. 185, 6, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., England. Send no money, simply mention this paper, and ask for the Free Trial Treatment. It will be sent you by return mail, carriage paid,

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In tins, 6d., 1/- & 1/6; sprinkler jars, 1/- nett. For Free sample send 1d. stamp to F. C. Calvert & Co. (J.B. Dept.), Manchester.

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OFFER the FOLLOWING GENERAL HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, including DRAWING-ROOM, DINING-ROOM, and BED-ROOM FURNITURE, PLATE, LINEN, CARPETS, PIANOS, &c., &c., removed from Tamworth House, Letchfield; Hollingdean Terrace, Brighton; Castlenau, Barnes; Dinsmore Road, Balham; St. Margaret's Road, Hanwell; and elsewhere. Magnificent pieces of furniture, half the original cost. No reasonable offer will be refused. The following are some of the bargains obtainable:—

The BED-ROOM FURNITURE comprises: Iron bedsteads from 9s black and brass bedsteads from 10s.; full-size black and brass bedstead 11s.; 4ft. 6in. oak bestead, with wire mattress, 30s.; 5 oak bedsteads, 14s. 6d.; very fine pair brass twin bedsteads, £6 10s.; large-size mahogany bedstead, inlaid, with wire mattress, £3 10s.; all-brass bedstead, full size, £2 7s. 6d.; pair mahogany twin bedsteads, fitted with wire mattresses, £2 19s. 6d.; pair all-brass Italian bedsteads, £6 10s.; a square-tube all-brass Italian bedstead, £8 8s.; and several others up to 20 guineas; several white-enamelled bed-room suites, from £4 5s.; oak bed-room suites, £5 10s.; three solid oak bed-room suites, with side cheval glasses to dressing-table, £5 5s. each; satin-walnut bed-room suite, with cheval wings to dressing-table, £6 10s.; a walnut bed-room suite, £7 5s.; an inlaid Sheraton-design bed-room suite, £7 10s.; a similar suite, £10 10s.; 4ft. 6in. inlaid Sheraton-design bed-room suite, £11 11s.; 5 ft. inlaid Sheraton-design bed-room suite, £16 18s.; 5ft. mahogany bed-room suite, £19 19s.; 6ft. Sheraton-design bed-room suite, 24 guineas; 6ft. mahogany bed-room suite, 27 guineas; 7ft. inlaid suite, 40 guineas; 7ft. Louis bed-room suite, most exquisite design, 80 guineas; inlaid Sheraton-design chests, from £2 2s. each.

The DINING-ROOM FURNITURE comprises: Most massive Elizabethan design dining-room set, consisting of sideboard, overmantel, and suite, upholstered in red leather, £15 15s.; 7ft. mahogany sideboard, £9 10s.; 20 old-design dining-room chairs, upholstered in real morocco, £1 1s. each; magnificent solid oak dining-room set, £9 10s.; oak suite, upholstered in green pegamoid, £3 15s.; sideboard to match, £7 7s.; overmantel, 45s.; Chippendale dining-room set, £10 10s.; Queen Anne mahogany dining-room set, £7 18s. 6d.; solid oak sideboard, £3 10s.; 20ft. extending dining table, £5 5s.; fumed-oak dining-room set, consisting of sideboards, six chairs, two carved chairs, overmantel, rug, &c., will accept £13 13s. lot; a most superb Chesterfield and two club large easy chairs, upholstered in green leather, £14 14s. set; a Sheraton design sideboard, £5 15s.; mahogany bookcase, £2 18s. 6d.; mahogany writing bureau, 32s. 6d.; several overmantels, from 15s.; about 20 dining-tables, extending different lengths, from 17s. 6d.; about 50 odd dining-room chairs, all to be sold with no reserve.

The DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE comprises: Very fine drawing-room suite, £2 10s.; another elaborate drawing-room suite, £5 15s.; satin-wood drawing-room suite, £6 10s.; Sheraton design drawing-room suite, £7 10s.; most elegant French design drawing-room suite, Louis XIV., upholstered in French tapestry, £19 19s.; Chesterfield drawing-room suite, most exquisite design, £17 17s.; set of Dutch marqueterie inlaid chairs, £14 14s.; most elegant Vernis Martin cabinet, £16 18s.; another one, £10 10s.; buhl cabinet, £12 12s.; table en suite, £8 8s.; large Chesterfield, upholstered in silk, £6 6s.; two Chesterfields, £2 10s. each; Chippendale occasional tables from 10s. 6d.; Sheraton design cabinet, £2 10s.; Chippendale design cabinet, £5 10s.; two white enamelled overmantels, 18s. 6d. each; elegant piano, £7 10s.; an upright grand piano, mahogany case, nearly new with iron frame, £12 12s.; grand pianos, by Steinway, Bechstein, Bluthner, Collard and Collard, &c.,; about 50 reversible carpets from 7s.; tapestry carpets, with border, from 14s. 6d.; also some elegant Brussels carpets, Axminster carpets, &c., from 18s. 6d. each; Mirzapore, Turkey, and Oriental carpets and rugs to match, from £2 10s. each; about 10 very large Axminster-Wilton carpets from £5 5s. (worth considerably more). Great quantity of Hall Furniture. Also about six roll-top desks, from £4 7s. 6d. each; also quantity of Library and Office Furniture, about 20 vols. of books, large quantity of electro-plate, china, glass, cutlery kitchen utensils, lace curtains, bed and table linen, &c. Country buyers should call and inspect these goods. All goods delivered, town or country, free of charge, or can remain stored free for 12 months. All goods can be seen where they are now lying, for the convenience of sale, any day, from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven, at

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every part of your system must suffer because your blood is certain to become charged with impurities. Indigestion, depression, lack of energy, dizziness, sickness, headaches, etc., are all "Liver signs." They can be cured only by restoring life and vigour to the liver. Dr. SCOTT'S PILLS do this quicker than any other remedy. A single dose will prove.

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J.B., 22/10/10 .....

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

("Larry Lynx" of The People, "Double U. L." of Lotinga's Weekly, and "Magpie" of The Globe.)

Shouting the Odds.

It is interesting, during the wait whilst horses are at the post, to notice the different styles and types of bookmakers' shouts. One has a scream, and another a deep intonation, whilst nearly all of them have their own peculiar manner of saying the same thing. The firm of Joe Thompson, for instance, sing-song somewhat meekly "3 to 1, bar 1"; another will cry quite jerkily, "3's bar 1," with the accent on the 3's. All regulars, even if shutting their eyes, could say whose shout it is!

Medley.

The New Zealand Racing Clubs copyright their official cards.

People who take our licences and never ride, are termed "saddle flappers."

W. Dollery, the trainer, has a son Frank, who is a fine athlete and hurdler.

Bookmakers and Pressmen are, as a rule, most unfortunate in the ownership of horses.

In all races, handicaps excepted, Belgian bred horses are allowed 4½ lbs., and in that country, fillies get a similar allowance, but geldings claim nothing.

Prophetic.

Sandown's "mixed" card prior to the Cambridgeshire week. In their respective races, either at Esher or Newmarket,

Anchora and Galleon

should end their run of placings, whilst in the selling ranks, with strong handling, Vivella should gain a race at last. It is too fluky to deal with jumping, as yet, but I must name the Cambridgeshire, which seems to be in very small compass. Over this short, sharp course, Bronzino cannot have much chance; both Halcyon and Whisk Broom must beat him. My emphatic choice—as throughout—must, however, be for

Electra,

and, on good going, I cannot see how this ill-fated mare will fail to complete her owner's "double."

All folks agree wherever *I* go—
she's thoroughbred "Fons et origo."

H. GREEN (Member of Tattersall's & Turf Guardian Society),
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Sooner or later you will realise the fact that Security ought to be your first consideration.

From TRUTH, 27th April, 1910:
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From JOHN BULL, May 14th, 1910:
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You know now, beyond any possible shadow of doubt, that
BERT FRY
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MEMBER OF TATTERSALL'S and the Principal London Clubs.
Send your name and address on a 1d. postcard, and state whether you are interested in Football or Racing or both and you will be absolutely convinced that my terms are unequalled by any reliable Agent. This is not an idle boast; give me the chance of proving same to you, and remember that Security ought to count for something.

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TOTALISATOR,
MIDDELBURG, HOLLAND.
Just a few Recent Prices paid by RUFUS WEBB'S "TOTE": Bellementine 15/4, Lady Edgar 9/2, Paloma 2/1, Copper Ore 45/2, Rub Lightly 7/4, Soldier 9/1, Libu 13/4, Renata 50/3.
Highest Sporting and Bankers' References.
WRITE TO-DAY for Rules. 1d. Postcard will do.
Send a deposit to-day—Large or Small, it doesn't matter. But DO IT TO-DAY, it will pay you.
"JOHN BULL" says in Answer to Correspondent: "Rufus Webb Totalisator Co., Middelburg, Holland. (A. F., Highbury).—Our enquiries re above were highly satisfactory, otherwise the advertisement would not have appeared in our columns. If you win, your money is safe—in many cases considerably over official S.P. prices have been paid." Rufus Webb results are published daily in *The Sportsman, Manchester Sporting Chronicle, Sheffield Daily Telegraph, Leeds Mercury* and principal provincial *Newspapers.*

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It is not necessary to be a Millionaire, for you can start with a capital of £3 if you choose, although the larger the capital, the larger your income will be.

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without making any deductions whatever for telegraphic expenses; surely this is convincing proof that I can do all I claim.

I cannot say all I should like to here, therefore to gain full particulars I want you to write your name and address, and the words "John Bull" on a post-card, and send it to me immediately, when I will send you in PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE my 28 page copyright descriptive booklet containing all details.

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The breadwinner in the thick of the battle of business is severely handicapped unless special efforts are made to maintain a high standard of physical and mental fitness. Otherwise lassitude, depression, sleeplessness, anæmia, and nervous disorders fo low one another in quick succession, and before long comes the inevitable breakdown. To prevent this breakdown and to keep the body "fit" and the brain alert, there is nothing like an occasional wineglassful of

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Don't take the risk of a disastrous breakdown. Send this Coupon to-day for a liberal trial bottle—FREE.

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Please send me a trial bottle of "Wincarnis." I enclose 3 penny stamps for postage.

Name.....

Address.....

John Bull, Oct. 22/10.

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J. C. MASCARENHAS, Ph.D., F.C.S., K.S.B., Analytical Consulting Chemist, 27-28, King William St., E.C. *June, 1910.*

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Two kinds: Greasy for dry and brittle hair; Non-greasy for greasy hair.

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This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one-solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

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Black, Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Chestnut, Golden Chestnut, Light Golden Chestnut. Golden, Light Golden.

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If you wish to restore your grey or faded hairs to their natural colour, send us a clipping of your hair where it is not yet grey or faded — and we will match the stain exactly to it.

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The following claims have been received for the issues of September 3rd and 10th:—

WILLIAM APPLEBY, Turners Street, Sandhill, Great Houghton, near Barnsley.—No. 270,175. September 3rd.

E. BARTLETT, 73, Inglethorpe Street, Fulham Park, S.W.—No. 412,009. September 3rd.

G. SEARLE, 4, Sturt Avenue, Haslemere.—No. 162,368. September 10th.

A. J. SIMMS, 82, Coleridge Street, Hove, Brighton.—No. 599,286. September 10th.

S. E. MARTIN, 19, Rollins Street, Old Kent Road, S.E.—No. 278,449. September 10th.

DAVID NEISH, 21, Lawrence Street, Dundee.—No. 507,401. September 10th.

GEORGE SHELITOE, 49, Salisbury Road, Enfield Lock, N.—No. 470,118. September 10th.

F. JOHNSON, 27, Endell Street, W.C.—No. 238,499. September 10th.

G. W. GRANT, Nag's Head Hotel, Ryde, Isle of Wight.—No. 360,870. September 10th.

MRS. LEA, Docking Yard, Newbottle, near Fencehouses, Co. Durham.—No. 539,697. September 10th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of September 24th:—

3405	112123	214562	304890	508226
4874	127641	224349	328646	522537
7740	133986	238205	342630	530913
22751	140871	241911	370950	538521
50151	146091	244699	386602	543203
74891	170931	257243	417063	544195
78541	173160	261553	438285	559845
92929	176361	271009	461237	565913
95867	187840	278414	474952	573950
100673	206197	285943	491355	593103

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED NOVEMBER 19TH (PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 17TH).

The Most Astounding Evidence of security for Deposit Account Clients!!

See Opposite Corner.

Any Cheque from Douglas Stuart, Flushing, will be cashed over the Counter at the branches of the Bank given here!

"AS GOOD AS A BANK-NOTE."

WEIGHING IN
LONDON New Bond Street
SWANSEA Wind Street
NEWCASTLE on TYNE Mosley St.
MANCHESTER King Street
LIVERPOOL Castle St.
LEICESTER Granby St.
LEEDS Park Row
HUDDERSFIELD New St.
DONCASTER High St.
CARDIFF St Mary St.
BRISTOL Baldwin St.
BRADFORD Kirkgate
BIRMINGHAM New St.
DERBY St. Peters Str.
NOTTINGHAM Victoria
OLDHAM Union St.
SHEFFIELD Bank St.
PORTSMOUTH Commercial
HULL Whitefriargate
WEIGH IN
WITH YOUR
Deposits for Any Amount
— TO —
DOUGLAS STUART
Flushing, Holland,
SYSTEM SPECIALIST
WITHOUT ANY COMMISSION.
Market Price Guaranteed as ruling in London at time of posting your instructions. No such Letter as "Price Unobtainable" ever left Duggie's office.
The Originator of The World-Famous PLACE BETTING
NO LIMIT combined with when Favourite starts "Odds-on."
Instructions by letter may be posted up to noon, day of Race.
WEIGH IN with your deposits and, however great the price returned to win or for a place, DOUGLAS STUART will have great pleasure in—
For CREDIT ACCOUNTS write to
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WEIGHING OUT
The London City & Midland Bank
Pay to ... the sum of ...
£10000
Douglas Stuart

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